



RING OUT

Sound of the bells makes bride's day



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BAB BOON

There's a cute new arrival at the zoo



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I do need to be less naive, says UKIP MEP

THE MEP and councillor at the centre of a row for telling aspiring politicians to look at Adolf Hitler's speaking style has said he needs to be less 'politically naive' and more 'mature'.

Bill Etheridge was embroiled in a storm of criticism after it was revealed he had used the Nazi leader as an example when leading a seminar for budding UKIP politicians in Birmingham.

The West Midlands MEP, who was elected to Brussels in May, is also a councillor in Dudley representing Sedgley.

The 44-year-old denied telling members of Young Independence they should copy Hitler.

It is not the first time he has got into trouble. He was suspended from the Conservative party in 2011 when, as a member of the Campaign Against Political Correctness, he and his wife Star posed with golliwog dolls.

"I need to be less politically naive," he told the Express & Star, The Chronicle's sister newspaper.

"I sold steel for 20 years and I've been an elected politician for just a few months."

"I'm still a novice as a politician but I will be more mature in my discourse."

■ Hitler row — see Page 3

Horses spark clampdown

A FRESH clampdown on horses left tethered on local authority land has been launched.

Council bosses in Sandwell say there has been an increase in the number of horses being left on open plots of land around Tipton, including on some housing estates. Concerns have been raised about the welfare of the animals.

In Dudley the council faces an issue with horses grazing on their land including Fens Pool in Pensnett and Buckpool in Brockmoor.

SHEDDING NEW LIGHT ON MUSEUM

WORK is to start on a new museum showcasing the Black Country's glassmaking heritage this autumn.

The £5 million redevelopment will see part of the former Stuart Crystal site, opposite the Red House Glass Cone in Wordsley, converted into the visitor attraction anticipated to attract more than 500,000 people a year.

Site owners Complex Development Projects Ltd has now submitted plans to Dudley Council for the museum along with 18 apartments to be built on another part of the site, off Camp Hill.

It comes as they wait to hear the outcome of a bid for £2.15m from the European Regional Development Fund towards the project with the rest coming from grants.

Showcase

The museum, which will have a modern glass front, is to face the Glass Cone.

It would also pay homage to its past with a striking light sculpture representing where the old White House Glass Cone once stood.

The museum will showcase the borough's glass treasures and highlight the area's heritage through interactive displays.

The proposals also include 18 apartments built on a separate part of the site and 11 commercial units as well as parking and a coach drop-off area.

A planning application has been submitted to Dudley Council by Ian Harrabin, managing director of site owner Complex Development Projects, who described the plans as 'very exciting'.

"The project is now proceeding quickly to a start on construction in October with completion by the end

By Heather Large

of next year. The planning application is a key part of the process but we are not expecting any problems as the proposals are very similar to the existing consent that we have.

"The main change is the glass museum taking over some of the space previously allocated to offices.

"It's a very exciting project and I'm sure will have a big impact on this part of the borough."

Graham Knowles, Chairman of the British Glass Foundation, said: "We are delighted that the planning application has now been submitted for the new glass museum in the former Stuart Crystal factory buildings — this is a big step forwards.

"The museum should be open in 18 months' time and will be a great new home for the borough's stunning glass collections currently held at Broadfield House and Himley Hall."

He added: "With its long history of glassmaking, and being opposite the Red House Cone, this site is the perfect location for the new museum."

"We have been working very closely with the developer and Dudley Council over the last few years to make this happen."



A landmark at the new museum will be a light sculpture paying homage to the old White House Glass Cone

Tributes paid to accident victim

TRIBUTES were this week paid to a cyclist who died in a road accident in Upper Gornal.

Friends described care worker Lorraine Rowson as a 'wonderful person'. She died at the scene after her bicycle was involved in a collision with a lorry at the junction of Burton Road and Jews Lane on Friday.

Paramedics tried to save the 50-year-old mother-of-one but nothing could be done.

Elaine Hartland, deputy manager at Greenway House Residential Home, Lower Penn, where Mrs Rowson worked for 14 years, said: "We are all in a state of shock. Lorraine was the

nicest person you could meet. She was kind and loving, which were qualities that came out in her work here.

"We are a small community with only 12 residents, so people get to know each other very well. She will be missed by everyone."

Mrs Hartland said Mrs Rowson was also an animal lover known for taking in unwell dogs and nursing them back to health.

She is survived by her husband and daughter, a 21-year-old university student.

Mrs Hartland added: "She was a very outgoing person, who was completely devoted to her family."

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman Steve Parry said an ambulance and a paramedic arrived shortly after the accident.

"Sadly, it quickly became apparent to crews that nothing could be done to save the cyclist involved," he said.

"She was confirmed dead at the scene. The lorry driver was assessed by ambulance staff but did not require further hospital treatment."

Police are continuing to investigate the incident which happened at around 11.40am. Anyone with information should contact the Collision Investigation Unit on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Customers launch a battle to save pub

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to save a popular Sedgley pub from being converted into a supermarket.

More than 300 people have signed a petition calling on Marston's to keep The Seven Stars in Gospel End Road open.

Campaigners have put petition forms in shops in the village after hearing that the brewery and pubs group was considering selling the pub site to Morrisons.

Regulars

They are also urging regulars and former customers to e-mail Marston's objecting to the loss of The Seven Stars.

The former Banks's pub has undergone a series of refurbishments in recent years.

It is now a one-room pub with the former back bar converted into a dining space.

Marston's have issued a statement confirming that they have been approached about selling the pub.

"We have been approached by Morrisons," a statement said. "These discussions are at an exploratory stage and we do not expect to make any formal planning application, if appropriate, for at least four to six weeks. We will keep the local residents informed."

Doddy pledge over concert

VETERAN comedian Ken Dodd has vowed to hold a benefit concert backing the campaign to save Dudley Hippodrome.

The 86-year-old comedy legend has told campaigners to 'name the date' for his fundraising gig.

It has turned up the pressure on Dudley Council chiefs after the Liverpool comedian described their plans to tear down the landmark building on Castle Hill as 'shattering and devastating'.

website www.wombourne-windows.co.uk

Wombourne Windows

For more information see page 10

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Fizzogs to take on Riverdance routine

MORE than 300 people have voted in a poll to decide the next tune that the Fizzogs dance to – and Riverdance topped the chart.

The routine made famous by Michael Flatley came out on top ahead of Michael Jackson's Thriller and Blurred Lines by Robin Thicke.

The performers have won legions of fans around the world with their 'dancing grannies' videos and, for

their next internet hit routine, Susan Hawkins, Jacky Fellows, Deb Nicholls, joined by fellow comedian Emma Rollason, will take inspiration from the Emerald Isle.

The poll was on the Express & Star's entertainment website Native Monster. Riverdance grabbed more than 22 per cent of the results. They will release a video of the routine on the internet this week.

Deb, aged 42, from Wollaston, says the performers from Fizzog Productions, based in Dudley, are happy with Lord of the Dance. "We can't thank people enough. It's going to take some doing but we'll be rehearsing hard straight away to give a showstopping performance," she said.

"I think we'll rope in the help of our very own Lord of the Dance,

our fellow comic James Collins, for a star turn."

The Fizzogs have been attracting attention on the internet for a dance routine which sees them jiggle to Flo Rider's 'Low' and 'Single Ladies' by Beyonce. The performance at Stourbridge Carnival, which has more than 2.7 million likes on Facebook, finishes off with Bhangra music and Psy's Gangnam Style.

Council tax payers pick up the bill for vandals

IT cost hundreds of pounds to clean up the damage caused in Brierley Hill by yobs who graffitied walls, phoneboxes and shop shutters this summer.

Dudley Council revealed it had cost £640 to clean up the mess after the vandals struck at properties in Moor Street, Mill Street and High Street on July 28.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed has criticised those responsible for the vandalism. He said: "It is always disappointing when the mindless actions of a few affect others."

"In this case, not only did the graffiti upset people in the local community but it has cost us money to clean it up."

"We are receiving less money from the Government each year and the £640 we had to use could have been spent on something that would have benefited the community."

"I hope that by releasing this information it will make people think twice before causing damage to public property in the future."

"People can be reassured that we will not tolerate this kind of behaviour and we are now working with the police to identify the offenders."

Little theatre stage big play

A THEATRE company is opening its 68th season with a play filled with romance, intrigue and jealousy set during one long day in the garden of a grand house.

Dudley Little Theatre is performing Ring Round The Moon by Jean Anouilh, translated by Christopher Fry, from September 10 to 13 at Netherton Arts Centre. Tickets for the 7.30pm shows cost £7 (£6 for concessions) and there is a 10 per cent discount on block bookings.

To book call 0870 320 7000 or visit the www.dudleylittletheatre.org website.

Express profits

NATIONAL Express has seen its bus operations, which dominate in the West Midlands, bringing in more cash over the first half of the year. The company based in Birmingham saw revenues rise by two per cent to £137.7 million with profits higher at £15.3m.

Jobs lost as baby store is going mainly online

BABY and nursery specialist Kiddicare will shut its branch at Dudley's Merry Hill Centre next month with the expected loss of around 100 jobs.

It is one of 10 stores around the country closing on September 7.

The store opened in October 2012 in the former Best Buy premises in a move which created 106 jobs. The chain was previously owned by Morrisons but was bought by Endless, a Leeds-based private equity firm, for £2 million last month.

The new owner is shutting its 'loss making stores' to enable it to concentrate on the online side of the business.

Garry Wilson, managing partner at Endless said: "It is a difficult situation with store closures. But every store is heavily loss-making."

Surgery

"We're not closing stores for the sake of it. We've been tasked with performing surgery."

"Fundamentally Kiddicare is a good e-commerce business and we need to make sure it's not dragged down by the heavily loss-making stores."

A spokesman added: "After appropriate consultation within the business it was decided to close the 10 former Best Buy stores that trade as Kiddicare. This will happen on September 7."

"The online business and Peterborough store will continue to trade as normal."

Among the services offered by the Merry Hill store is a children's soft play area, a Starbucks coffee shop and free car seat fitting and pushchair servicing.

Kiddicare, which had sales of around £80m in the last financial year, was founded in 1974. Morrisons bought the business in 2011.

Kiddicare took over the 40,000 square foot unit at Merry Hill in 2012.

Bells have wedding appeal



Newly weds Emma and Alex Williams were the first couple to hear the wedding bells

THE bells were ringing for newly-weds at a Quarry Bank church for the first time after a parishioner solved an age-old problem.

Christ Church only has one small bell in its tower which is rarely used to mark special occasions or worship due to its monotone sound.

One worshipper, Brian Genner, was on holiday in Tenby when he heard the traditional chimes from the town's St Mary's Church during bell ringing practice. He was able to obtain a recording of the church's

bells and brought it back to the Black Country to use at High Street church Christ Church to mark the big day for couples.

Two speakers have been erected at the entrance of the church to play out the sound of bells on a wedding day.

The first couple hearing the bells were Emma and Alex Williams, from Dudley. Rev David Hoskin married the couple. "It was a joy to hear the bells ring out as they emerged from the church," he said. "They sound very traditional."

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More face fines over school term absences

MORE than 2,500 fines have been handed out to parents in the Black Country and Staffordshire for taking their children out of school during term time in the last two years.

Over half of them have been dishd out in the last year after new legislation came into force in September giving headteachers the power to only grant term-time absences in exceptional circumstances.

The move has proved controversial across the country with a number of parents being hauled before the courts for refusing to pay the fines. Each parent faces a £60 fine per child for breaching the rules — increased to £120 if not paid in full in 21 days. They face court if they don't pay by 28 days.

The fines handed out in this region 1,501 were in the last year. The year 2013/14 saw a rise of 434 from the previous 12 months on penalties dishd-out.

Figures show Dudley dealt out 224 fines in 2012/13, increasing to 248 in 2013/14. Sandwell fines increased from 15 in 2012/13 to 87 in 2013/14. In Wolverhampton fines rose from 125 in 2012/13 to 303 the following year.

Tab is going on Summer Holiday

A MUSICAL society is looking for people to follow in the footsteps of Cliff Richard by joining its new production of feel-good 1960s musical Summer Holiday.

Tab Operatic Society is recruiting members to take part in its production of the show in March at Brierley-Hill Civic Hall. The group is looking for five male and five female lead performers, as well as dancers and singers for the chorus. Auditions will be held at Dudley Wood Methodist Church Hall, Quarry Road, on Sunday. Call Audrey Henwood on 01384 393196 or Elaine Vine on 0121 550 7254.

Tenants meet

A SERIES of tenants and residents association meetings (TRAs) are being held across Dudley borough.

The Corbyns Bromley TRA and Parkes Street TRA, both in Brierley Hill, will meet on Monday and Thursday, August 21 respectively. Call (01384) 815168.

MEP refuses to resign over Hitler comments



UKIP MEP Bill Etheridge

A UKIP MEP from Dudley who urged young party candidates to study Adolf Hitler's public speaking style says he regrets his comments about the Nazi leader but is refusing to resign.

Bill Etheridge, also a Dudley councillor, claimed his speech was taken 'out of context' and denounced the furor which has followed it as 'political opportunism'.

The 44-year-old, elected to Dudley Council and the European Parliament in May, said he 'regrets' mentioning the 'Nazi leader' in a

speech where he described Hitler as a 'forceful public speaker'. Mr Etheridge made two speeches to UKIP's Young Independence Conference in Birmingham earlier this month.

He told them: "Look back to the most magnetic and forceful public speaker possibly in history. When Hitler gave speeches, at the start he walks, back and forth, looked at people, he waited minutes just looking out at people, fixing them with his gaze. And then, when he started speaking they were hanging on his

every word. I'm not saying direct copy, pick up little moments."

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed of Dudley Council described the comments as 'unbelievable' and called on police to investigate.

But Mr Etheridge said: "It is just political opportunism. I will not stand down." Although he did regret his comments in the context of what has happened since.

"I speak about a range of figures in my seminar including Martin Luther King, Ronald Reagan, Hitler and Tony Blair. At no point do

I endorse their policies or beliefs, I simply point out their specific styles of public speaking.

Monster

"I always refer to Hitler as an evil monster. So this is an outrageous smear on me. I'm a Black Country lad and we don't stand for bullying."

A UKIP spokesman said: "Bill gave a seminar on public speaking and highlighted great speakers as people whose style, not content, could be studied."

Bid to create more free car parking spaces in town centre

PLANS are being drawn up to provide more free parking spaces in Stourbridge town centre to help boost trade.

Dudley Council has revealed it is considering proposals which would mean more spaces are created close to shops. It follows calls from councillors to help businesses in the town centre.

Highways bosses at the authority have not yet revealed

Folk festival is put back to next May

A MUSIC festival in Stourbridge has been postponed until next year.

Stourbridge Folk Festival, which brings in hundreds of music fans to the town, was due to take place next month.

Star names including Scott Matthews, Lucy Ward and comedian Patrick Monahan were set to perform at the arts and music festival that was due to be held at Wordsley's Red House Glass Cone between September 5 and 7.

Officials are yet to reveal the reason behind the postponement but say they are planning for the event to take place next May instead.

In a statement, organisers said: "Our apologies to all concerned but due to circumstances beyond our control the event has been postponed and will be re-scheduled in May of next year."

All tickets will be refunded through ticket company Wegottickets.

There are plans to move Patrick Monahan's show to Katie Fitzgeralds pub, in Enville Street.

how many spaces could be created. There are currently around 100 spaces available in three streets in the town centre including High Street and Market Street.

Transport boss Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said: "Stourbridge has free on-street parking throughout the High Street, Lower High Street and Market Street and working with local councillors, plans are already in place to increase the number of free spaces to support shoppers and traders further."

"We hope to be in a position to announce this additional free parking shortly."

The announcement came as councillors Paul Bradley and Paul Brothwood started a campaign for extra free parking in Stourbridge. They are working with Jim Carver MEP, who was last week selected as UKIP's prospective parliamentary candidate in Stourbridge, on the scheme.

Councillor Brothwood said they want to revitalise local shopping areas. He added: "As a local business owner I understand the frustrations of small businesses."

"Providing greater free parking provision would fuel additional footfall and trade in Stourbridge."

Hundreds of free parking spaces are available at the new £50 million Crown Centre opened last year but these are time limited.

Miracle escape as chip shop hit by car



MandysTasty Plaice in Pensnett where a car crashed into the fish and chips shop but no one was hurt

STAFF were forced to flee a fish and chip shop in Dudley when a car ploughed into the front window in the early evening.

The BMW 1 Series left the road, mounted the pavement before ending up going through the window of Mandy's Plaice and Tasty Fish Bar in Commonsidge, Pensnett.

Firefighters said the situation could have been a lot worse had it smashed into the fryer with full force.

The car came through the front window but luckily there were no

customers inside at the time. Police, ambulance, and firefighters were all called to the scene around 7.30pm last Wednesday.

Large crowds gathered to see the carnage before a safety inspector assessed the building and gave approval for the car to be removed.

Dudley Fire Station watch commander Ross Gordon said: "Fortunately the driver was not injured and he was out of the car when we arrived being given the once over by paramedics."

"We had to make sure the structure was sound until a structural engineer came out. He decided it was safe to remove the vehicle and hand the property back over to the owner."

Valerie Potter, who lives nearby, said: "I heard a great big bang. We went outside and saw the car in the shop."

Business owner Asa Singh, 30, who has run the shop for seven years, said: "It's just a miracle no-one got killed. Fingers crossed, we will be back up and runnings in a couple of weeks."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Friends arranging fun day in the park

A SUMMER fair will take place in Dudley on Sunday, organised by the Friends and Residents of Buffery Park.

The event was originally scheduled to take place in July but had postponed due to bad weather.

Attractions will include a classic car display, a land train, rodeo bull, bouncy castle and orb football. There will also be an array of food being served up.

Anyone who would like a stall can contact secretary Lynn Horton on 07857043096 or email bufferypark@yahoo.co.uk

Historian looking at 1940s and 50s

A HISTORIAN will be giving a talk about cultural changes in the 1940s and 1950s.

Alan Thornton is the guest of Wordsley Townswomen's Guild for the event on Monday at 10am.

He will be hosting the event at Wordsley Green Community Centre, Wordsley.

His talk will encompass the war years, rationing and the thriving 1950s music scene.

Entry is £2.50 and that includes refreshments.

Zoo chief attends tourism meeting

CHIEF executive of Dudley Zoo Peter Suddock attended the inaugural meeting of the newly-formed Tourism Council.

Mr Suddock was at the conference to look at ways to improve the industry and help support businesses. Other member organisations include VisitBritain, Hilton Worldwide, Whitbread Hotels and Restaurants, Easyjet, Google and Eurostar.

Name is brought back for new road

A NAME for a new road being created as part of a housing development in Kingswinford has been chosen.

Five homes are being built off Mount Pleasant by developer Regency Homes Ltd. The road will be called Hazelmere Gardens reflecting the former name of nearby Glynne Primary School.

Elvis is in the pub

CUSTOMERS are being encouraged to dress up as Elvis Presley to join rock 'n' rollers at Sedgely pub The White Horse, in Dudley Street, when an Elvis tribute act performs on Sunday at 7pm.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



I HAVE just bought one of the 888,246 ceramic poppies planted at the Tower of London to mark the centenary of the First World War. I urge you to do the same before they are snapped up by the spivs. Today's cherished souvenir has a nasty habit of becoming tomorrow's earner on eBay.

BACK in 1914-18, people would have been pleased and surprised that their sacrifice was remembered, 100 years on, by the sale of such poppies to support military charities. Mind you, the shilling-a-day soldiers of the First World War would have been even more surprised that the price of a ceramic poppy was £25.

AFTER my item on the use of pigeons to carry messages in the First World War, a reader asks if these intelligent birds were ever used in a military coo.

SIR – I await with interest the first report of road rage between two driverless cars. (Letter to Daily Telegraph)

IT seems, little by little, the Government is paving the way for genetically modified (GM) foods, even though polls repeatedly show most people are against the stuff. We are told that the first GM crops to be "enriched with nutrients to improve health" will be harvested soon from a field trial in Britain. A crop of false flax has been tampered with so that its seeds will produce an oil rich in fatty acid which is normally only found in fish. They will feed this stuff to farmed fish. We will then eat the fish. What could possibly go wrong? Our leaders have been well and truly lobbied by the massively rich and quite unstoppable GM industry.

POINTLESS inventions. The latest fishing-kit catalogue arrives at Chateau Rhodes offering camouflaged boots. You see the problem? Dammit, I definitely put them down here somewhere . . .



IF Boris Johnson is the answer, it must be a very, very strange question.

A READER rages about a think-tank report showing that spending on infrastructure is £5,426 per head in London but only £223 in the North East. There is a simple explanation. Londoners need the new £15,000 million Crossrail project. Geordies need a shed for the whippet.

IN these days of equality, tolerance and human rights it is inevitable that the declared aim of a new sperm bank funded by the NHS is to help all couples, including lesbians. Nothing wrong with that. What strikes me as odd is that folk will be able to choose the ethnicity and eye and hair colour of the donor. So you'll be able to strike a blow for equality, tolerance and human rights, while making quite sure you get a baby of the "right" colour.

SO WHAT exactly was the point of the RAF Typhoon escorting an airliner into Manchester Airport after a passenger allegedly claimed he had a bomb? What was the pilot supposed to do – shoot it down? The sight of the Typhoon so close to the passenger plane put the fear of God into those on board. The scariest flying experience I've ever had came when a pair of RAF Phantoms appeared on either side of our Tristar on the descent into the Falklands some years ago.

AFTER my recent item on the driver in Dorset who was issued with a summons for sounding a Dixieland horn, a reader recalls an incident in Weymouth in 1973 when he was a passenger in a mate's vintage American Willys Jeep. "We were pulled over and I was given a right royal *****ing about the noise coming from the exhaust." When I pointed out that the steering wheel was on the other side and I wasn't the driver, the copper called me a smart **** and told us to ***** off."

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Festival is showcase for talented actors

AN award-winning theatre group based in Stourbridge is celebrating bumper box office success ahead of a prestigious arts festival appearance.

Side By Side's performance of Illyria-on-Sea, which took place in June at Stourbridge Town Hall Theatre, broke all ticket sales records for the group.

The group, which is made up of

actors with a range of learning disabilities, performed the play which is a fresh take on the William Shakespeare play Twelfth Night.

Royal

The theatre group began in 1997 when former teacher Susan Wallin MBE started it up while working at Stourbridge College.

Side By Side has become part of

the Royal Shakespeare Company's Open Stages Project which mentors community groups.

This week they will be at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival where they will perform at Augustine's on George IV Bridge until Saturday.

Founder and artistic director Susan said: "Being part of the RSC has given us tremendous kudos. We have people coming from all over

the Black Country just to be part of the group. They absolutely live for it and love performing.

"They can't wait to get new scripts and are so committed. They even take their scripts on holiday with them. All the actors are completely self reliant."

Call Susan on 07929 352239 or email susan.sidebyside@btinternet.com for further information.

£6m council homes boost is welcomed

A £6 million cash boost to build council homes in Dudley has been welcomed by the borough's housing boss.

Councillor Gaye Partridge said the priority would be to provide smaller properties and homes suitable for older people and those with disabilities.

A total of 123 properties will be built in Dudley, Woodseton, Coseley, Sedgley and Kingswinford.

Dudley Council has been granted permission to borrow £6m from the Local Growth Fund Housing Revenue Account Borrowing Programme to fund the scheme.

Apartments

Councillor Partridge said: "We have looked carefully at the local need and we will be particularly focusing on providing new smaller homes and homes suitable for older people and those with disabilities."

The council has received £245,000 of Government money towards a separate scheme in Sedgley.

The Homes and Communities Agency has awarded the cash towards a £1.2m project to convert former care home Arcal Lodge on Arcal Road into 14 homes.

The scheme would be a mixture of apartments and bungalows.

In addition to funding new homes, the council will use some of the cash to create up to four new apprenticeship positions.

A planning application

By Heather Large

for this development will be made shortly and if approved, the scheme is due for completion in spring 2016.

Councillor Partridge said: "This is great news as there is a real need in the borough to provide more homes that are better for older people and people with disabilities. "We are delighted to have secured the money at a time of reduced funding.

"It means that despite the difficult economic situation there are new affordable homes for local people."

It comes after the council announced £15m would be spent on refurbishing thousands of existing council homes throughout the borough.

Money will be spent upgrading kitchens and bathrooms, repairing roofs, rewiring and installing new central heating at existing properties.

Orry will be missed

A POPULAR resident of Dudley Zoo had died after entertaining the crowds for around 20 years.

The 22-year-old Patagonian sealion Orry recently after receiving veterinary treatment for 10 days up to his death. Hundreds of tributes has now been made on the zoo's Facebook page.

Orry, who weighed in at 405kg, was given a home at the zoo after being rescued from a travelling circus in Belgium, aged two. Jill Hitchman, spokesman for the zoo, said: "The many special messages have prompted more than a few tears from the team. He will be missed by all."

Scouts prepared for jamboree



A mass 'selfie' for Black Country scouts posing outside 10 Downing Street

ALWAYS be prepared is their motto and Black Country scouts were certainly proving that on a weekend in London preparing for their international jamboree in Japan next year.

Unit 44 West Mercia Scouts from Halesowen, Wolverhampton and Walsall, posed in front of 10 Downing Street and met Foreign Secretary, Philip Hammond, and still found time to practise navigating through a busy city.

This is in anticipation of the notoriously

congested Tokyo, where they are planning to travel in August 2015 for the jamboree. It will see around 200,000 scouts from more countries than participate in the Olympics come together.

The scouts from West Mercia will also have the chance to travel on a superfast bullet train and explore Tokyo.

Assistant scout leader David Wong, aged 24 from Halesowen, said: "We were practising in London for the jamboree next year. It was a fantastic trip"

Councillor hoping to become a UKIP MP

A LONG serving councillor has announced plans to step down from his role to make a bid for a seat at Westminster.

Ken Turner, aged 72, recently joined the UK Independence Party and was successful in regaining his seat on Dudley Council last May.

But the Halesowen councillor says he will stand as a parliamentary candidate in Walsall South at the next election and adds that his age will be no barrier.

It comes as 81-year-old Labour MP David Winnick plans to stand again for election in his neighbouring Walsall North constituency.

Mr Turner was formally a Conservative councillor for a decade before he left the party.

He and his wife and fellow councillor Hazel stood down from the Tories on Dudley Council last December.

The couple left after an internal party row in which claims and counter-claims of 'bullying' were exchanged.

They had been Conservative party members since they were first elected in 2002 and 2003.

Mr Turner said he will begin campaigning shortly for UKIP in Walsall South, a seat currently held by Labour's Valerie Vaz.

CABs are to open longer

CITIZENS Advice Bureaux is increasing the hours its services are available in the Black Country.

Since April this year, the service has increased its hours from 104 to 159 per week. During the opening times a user can access advice on topics such as housing, benefits, debt, consumer issues and employment.

The Smethwick and West Bromwich bureaux are now open 37 hours each spread across 5 days from 8.30am, and there are 14 hours of advice provision in Cradley Heath, Oldbury, Tipton and Wednesbury.

Flowers and veg

A FLOWER and vegetable show is being held in Sedgley on Saturday.

Sedgley and District Community Association Gardening Club's 21st annual show will be held in the association's hall in Priory Lane. The free show opens to the public at 12.30pm.

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Valor	Firelite (Radiant)	£279 - £10 Trade-in
Robinson	Willey Firegem Visa 2 (Radiant)	£279 - £10 Trade-in
Flavel	Firenza (Radiant)	£229 - £10 Trade-in

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Man tried stabbing himself in the chest

A 53-year-old man tried to stab himself after pulling a knife on police, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. Officers were called to an address in Springfield Crescent, Dudley, on March 23 by members of the family of John Wells.

Mr Mark Rees, prosecuting, said: "He had been verbally aggressive and appeared drunk after not taking his medication. The officers asked the relatives to leave while they spoke to the defendant who went into the kitchen and picked up an eight-inch blade. He pointed this at the policemen in a threatening manner. They produced CS spray and told him to drop the knife which he then turned on himself and pressed the blade into his chest, fortunately without being able to do any damage."

Mr Andrew Baker, defending, said: "The incident was frightening but it resulted in no real harm. This man is not violent by nature but has long term alcohol issues and underlying psychiatric matters."

Wells, of Edgbaston Road, Moseley, got a three month jail sentence meaning immediate release since he had spent four months on remand in custody.

Crane driver dead after fire

A MAN died after a house fire in Dudley.

Crane driver Devakumaran Ramasamy, of Bourne Street, was admitted to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital on July 21 following the blaze.

An inquest at Smethwick Council House heard that the 65-year-old died in hospital five days later.

Coroner's officer Bonita Poole said he had died of fluid on the lungs, inhalation injuries and burns.

She said there were no suspicious circumstances. The inquest was adjourned for further inquiries.

Gaslight staged

STOURBRIDGE Theatre Company stage a Victorian melodrama as its next production. Gaslight by Patrick Hamilton will be at Stourbridge Town Hall September 4 to 6 at 7.30pm. Tickets £9 from The French Deli or via www.stourbridge theatrecompany.org.uk

Woman in shower disturbed by burglars

A STARTLED woman emerged from the shower to find three men burgling her home, a judge heard.

Her husband and son had left the property minutes earlier, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

When she heard noises in the house she assumed they had returned, said Mr David Swinnerton, prosecuting. But she had a shock when she discovered a man searching through drawers in her bedroom.

"She stepped from the shower to find a man going through drawers in her bedroom. She put on her dressing gown and started

screaming," said Mr Swinnerton. Carlton Betts, aged 18, fled from the property with a handbag containing her wedding and engagement rings worth around £1,700.

Keys

A second man appeared with £500 cash and two air rifles taken from the bedroom of her son while the third raider picked up her car keys with the intention of taking the vehicle from outside the address in Lorraine Avenue, Brierley Hill.

But the plucky householder chased after them, forcing the trio to abandon her car

and escape in a Corsa which had been stolen earlier.

Half an hour after the burglary, at 2.40pm on January 17, police spotted the Corsa, which was abandoned following a short chase during which some the the thieves' haul was thrown out of the vehicle.

Betts was discovered hiding in the toilets of a nearby pub and the remainder of the stolen property was found in the car along with improvised balaclavas, hammers and knives that were not used during the break in, concluded Mr Swinnerton.

The teenager declined to comment when

interviewed by police and the other raiders have not been traced.

Betts, from High Street, Princes End, who had a string of previous convictions, admitted burglary and was ordered to be detained in a young offenders' institution for 27 months.

Judge John Warner said: "It is difficult to imagine what it must be like for a woman to be in the shower, hear some noises and come out to find three people burgling her home. It really scared her." He told Betts: "You have a dreadful criminal record."

Pothole fixing project is under way across borough

TWENTY-FIVE roads across Dudley will be repaired after more than £500,000 was awarded to fix potholes.

The Government grant of £567,000 is the largest awarded in the West Midlands and will be used to in a 10-month project. The work began in June and the funding must be spent by March 2015.

Borough transportation

Pupils get a taste of college life

SCHOOL pupils have been given a taste of college life during an open event previewing a multi-million revamp.

Year 10 students from Holly Hall Academy in Dudley visited Birmingham Metropolitan College's Stourbridge Campus for the day.

Pupils and teachers were given an overview of the £6.5 million investment in new facilities at the campus, off Hagley Road, Oldswinford.

There was also a range of taster classes in business, uniformed public services, sport, information technology, early years learning and performance arts.

Visitors to a business class were tasked with building a reconstruction of the Eiffel Tower from marshmallows and dried spaghetti. Business lecturer Charlotte Bennett said: "This practical exercise is designed to encourage pupils to work together and communicate with each other as they work out the best way to build a structure. Pupils really like the hands-on practical approach."

boss Councillor Khurshid Ahmed said: "Dudley has embarked upon a major programme of pothole repairs using a new approach called planer potholes where damaged surfaces are removed with a small planer attachment that only removes the minimum material required for repair. This approach reduces material costs."

He added: "Work started very quickly as a condition of the money is that it is used in the next year."

"We are making sure we consider the right timing with the weather and the least disruption to road users."

Roads to be fixed are: Bisell Way, Quarry Bank; Blackbrook Road Netherton; Catholic Lane, Sedgley; Fieldview Close, Coseley; Hartside Close, Hayley Green; Heath Street, Stourbridge; King Street, Wollaston; Leabank Road, Halesowen; Leander Row, Wollescote; Leys Close, Pedmore; Lindale Crescent, Quarry Bank; Maidendale Road, Kingswinford; Mancroft Close, Kingswinford; Marbury Mews, Brierley Hill; Marine Gardens, Wordsley; Oldnall Close, Cradley; Pedmore Lane, Pedmore; Pervale Grove, Coseley; Prescott Road, Oldswinford; Prices Road, Lower Gornal; Rokewood Close, Kingswinford; Talbot Street, Brierley Hill; Talbot Street, Lye; Vicarage Close, Brierley Hill; Woodfield Avenue, Wollescote.

Liam helping children stay safe online



Winner of the Dudley Association of Governing Bodies safety poster competition is Liam Sidaway, 8, of The Brier School

A SCHOOLBOY will help children across a Black Country borough stay safe online after designing a new poster campaign.

Liam Sidaway, aged eight, won a competition to create a poster alerting classmates and pupils at schools around Dudley borough to the dangers on the internet.

The youngster, who attends The Brier School, Kingswinford, put pen to paper to design a poster with a special safety message.

Two boys are depicted on the poster playing on their computers when one says to the other 'What's your name?' to which the boy replies: 'I'm not telling you'. The poster carries the slogan: 'Keep your personal information private'.

Liam, who lives with his family in Halesowen, took part in the contest organised by Dudley Association of Governing Bodies.

He was given first prize and his poster has gone up for display at Salt-

wells Education Centre and across other schools.

Brier School headteacher Russell Hinton said: "All young people can be vulnerable online and this, coupled with the vulnerability of the pupils at the school by the very nature of their needs, means that it is vital that messages regarding safety are constantly underlined. We are very proud of Liam and grateful to the Dudley Association of Governing Bodies for their generosity."

Bathams goes north of the border

A SCOTTISH amateur football team has re-named its park ground The Bathams for the 2014-2015 season after securing a sponsorship deal with the Black Country brewery.

Glasgow club Tantalion Victoria will play in the first division of the Strathclyde Saturday Morning Football League in the 2014-2015 after winning promotion on the last day of last season.

The club, which formed in 2009, has established strong links with Gornal Athletic and West Bromwich Albion through social media site Twitter.

Choir presents pair of cheques

BIRMINGHAM Children's Hospital and Mary Stevens Hospice have been presented with cheques by Cradley Heath Male Voice Choir after their annual charity concert.

The cheque presentation took place at Dudley Wood Methodist Church where the choir rehearse every Monday at 7.30pm. Musical Director Philippa Bretell presented the cheques to Kate West of Birmingham Children's Hospital and Chris Saddler for Mary Stevens Hospice.

Call out for new bridge players

SEDLGLEY Bridge Club is on the lookout for players.

A drop-in rubber bridge session runs every Wednesday at 1.30pm, while duplicate bridge players can join in at 1pm on Thursdays. Newcomers to the game can learn the basics on Fridays at 1pm. Sessions run at the Sedgley and District Community Association, Hall Priory Lane. Call Stanley on 01902 561908 or Keith on 01902 671728.

Victim Support launch sessions

A DROP-IN centre is being launched for the victims of crime by charity Victim Support.

The new service is being offered at Age UK's premises in Darlington Street on the second Thursday of each month from 10am. The first session will be held today. Appointments can be booked through Age UK on 01902 572060.

Security training

JOBSEEKERS keen to work in the security industry have found jobs thanks to a training initiative by Birmingham Metropolitan College's Black Country Skills Shop with Stourbridge-based Secure Pro.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

IN January 2012, I had a minor shunt in the car. Damage was limited to a broken number plate and a bit of bumper scuffing. Nobody was hurt, and I never at any point suggested it was anybody's fault but my own.

So why is it, more than two-and-a-half years later, I suddenly find myself inundated with phone calls from people telling me I am entitled to compensation from the injuries I received? One company, calling itself Access To Justice, has been particularly prolific. After every call, I have been assured that I have been removed from the database, and that I won't be hearing from them again. After probably more than a dozen calls, they finally seem to have gone quiet.

Interestingly, these characters have also come to the attention of an organisation called the Access To Justice Foundation, which has stressed that it has no connection to the calls.

"The activities of these callers are the subject of an ongoing investigation to identify the responsible company and take appropriate action," says the trust's website. I would like to have helped, but the calls always come from a withheld number, and they always seem very guarded about giving out any information about themselves.

So where did they get their inaccurate information from? Well a call from another similar company, this time called Pinpoint, let the cat out of the bag.

A few weeks earlier, I had used a company which said it would be able to get me a cheaper deal on my car insurance. I had been quite pleased with the service I received the previous year, getting my premium down from more than £400 to just £200. But this year it involved spending more than an hour on the phone with no end result.

Anyway, it transpires that by answering that company's questions, I had also unwittingly consented to having my answers sold on to other parties.

So if your car insurance is due for renewal shop around by all means, but make it clear that you do not consent to having your information passed on to anybody in the accident claims business.

□ □ □

A FEW weeks ago, I jokingly suggested that 'Deirdre White Dee' Kelly off Benefits Street must be on the Conservatives' payroll. Now it seems a think tank has booked her for the party conference.

Her agent Barry Tomes says: "'Dee is very excited. She has lots of ideas about how to improve benefits."

You don't say. "Hopefully she'll get to have a drink with Mr Cameron."

Now that I would pay money to see, Dee and Dave Downing shots on the Carnage tour of Magaluf.

It would be like a proletarian version of the Bullingdon Club.



Robert Plant and Bev Pegg share a joke as they arrive



The service for Tommy at Hasbury Methodist Church



Tommy's widow Val with grandchildren, Daniel and Lucy

Love and laughs at Tommy's farewell

'They will be writing about Tom in 100 years' time' — **ADAM GRINSELL** on the farewell to a comedy great

"HE could make you luff at the drop of a hat" — as close friend Mel Thomas spoke at Tommy Mundon's remembrance service, more than 500 friends and well-wishers had a giggle.

Mr Thomas said of the original Black Country comedian: "I will always remember the first joke I heard Tommy tell.

"He said 'looking at me, you wouldn't think I was an ugly child'."

Hasbury Methodist Church in Halesowen was full to bursting as those who knew him said goodbye to Thomas 'Tommy' Mundon last Wednesday.

The 80-year-old died in July, four months after celebrating his birthday, at Mary Stevens Hospice following a five-year battle with Parkinson's Disease.

Stage

He was cremated in a private ceremony at Stourbridge Crematorium, before his family joined all those wanting to pay their respects at the church in Halesowen.

His remembrance service elicited laughs but it was also poignant and moving.

Before the service his widow Val, 62, said: "To most people he was someone who stood up on the stage being funny. But to us he was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. It was something quite special to be married to a guy like Tom. He was a bit out of the ordinary and a bit unique.

"He was always very witty. I could never outwit him because in an instant he would have a quip. Tom was always very modest but he did love performing



Tommy Mundon — king of the luffs and the Black Country's greatest comic

right from when he was a little tot. He was always a larger than life character.

"I met him in 1970 at a show, where he wasn't actually performing, at a club in Wordsley. He was not actually booked to perform but they sort of said 'come on up' and he went on stage.

"Tom was very kind and was quite shy really, because bear in mind, when I met him he was 36 and still lived with his parents. I just thought he was quite sweet really. We had some wonderful times together."

Tommy was forced to quit the comedy

every patient was a target," he said. "One of the patients after said to me that his visit was more therapeutic than a trolley-load of medication.

"Tommy wasn't just a legend, he was a very caring human being. He was a very proud family man, loyal and devoted to Val, a loving father and a caring grandfather. And Tommy loved his larger family, the general public."

Tommy was well-known beyond in his beloved Black Country and his name adorns the Comedy Carpet artwork in Blackpool alongside such as Tommy Cooper and Morecambe and Wise.

Following Tommy's death Ken Dodd, who was his close friend for more than 20 years, said: "He was a wonderful friend and a wonderful comedian. He was more than a comedian, he was a humorist, he knew all the Black Country stories. I admired him hugely."

Tommy spent some of his last days in Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Hospice where he attended day therapy sessions.

At one stage he had to turn down the opportunity to go to a royal garden party at Buckingham Palace as he was so ill, so instead staff at the hospice put on their own garden party in his honour. Mr Thomas suggested that perhaps Tommy would have enjoyed that more.

Val added: "It was very comforting that he was at Mary Stevens Hospice. He loved going there and the people. He went to the day centre and it was a big comfort to know they looked after him.

"It is comforting to have had so many cards and letters from people who have said some wonderful things about him. It is a big loss to the family. It is a tough one and I'm doing my best."

Among those at the service were Led Zeppelin frontman Robert Plant, who features in his biography a photograph of Tommy and himself from his 60th birthday party, and fellow Black Country entertainer Bev Pegg. He said: "They will be writing about Tom in 100 years' time, stating that he was the greatest Black Country comedian ever."

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

ONE of the many buzz words kicked around by central government is 'localism' but it turns out to mean absolutely nothing.

Take, for example, the case of Sandwell Council and its stinging rebuke from the High Court over its attempt to stop itself funding 'benefits tourism'.

The Government decided it would be up to councils to decide how much, if any, discount on council tax they would offer to working-age people of limited means.

Under the Welfare Reform Act, the Government replaced council tax benefit with a grant. But it only covered 90 per cent of the bill, leaving councils to find or save the other 10 per cent. Some, such as Wolverhampton, came up with new models to charge a small amount of council tax. Others carried on as before, but just absorbed the hit.

Sandwell tried to be clever. It was prepared to take the hit but didn't want to cover the costs of new arrivals as well. So it introduced a 'residency test'. Although the example of benefits tourists from costly areas of London was given in court, the theory applied more locally.

Sandwell was effectively erecting a wall around itself to stop people from Wolverhampton or other nearby areas, where the cost was passed on to residents, from moving a few miles down the road where their annual bills would be less, at the expense of the residents already living there.

But it fell foul of the High Court. And now it's left the council licking its wounds to the tune of tens of thousands of pounds of legal fees. And it faces the headache of having to appeal or look at its system all over again. It also exposes the futility of the 'localism' agenda. Councils were given the power to decide how to cope with these changes themselves, but then the High Court can intervene and overrule the decisions of democratically elected councillors.

There are just three months left before the trust running Stafford Hospital gets dissolved.

After years of inquiries and efforts to turn it around, people in Stafford now face being left with a pale shadow of what they once had.

Thousands have marched through the streets in protest. Some even took to setting up tents to fight for a better alternative.

Kate Godfrey, Labour's candidate for Stafford in next year's General Election, thinks Tory incumbent Jeremy Heywood should stand down and trigger a by-election to force the Government to take notice. He disagrees, saying it will leave Stafford without representation and anyone fighting for the hospital when it needs it most.

The political battle for Stafford will come next year. For now, campaigners have bigger things to worry about.



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Car boot sales are a social event

I READ that the residents of Himley Road have elected a new councillor to fight their corner with a view to closing the Wednesday and Sunday car boots. I wish they would look at how people would recycle without car boots. First they would clamber to the internet. It would be so tedious trying to sell or buy with so much to wade through, people wouldn't bother. Then they could donate to the charity shops. These would be full to brim and nothing would have a value.

There is always the tip. The queue would be vast and people wouldn't wait. Who foot

the bill for removal? It would be the council. Their budget is overstretched, so to compensate the cost of many services would rise.

There are people who can only afford to buy from boot sales. They will find a way of obtaining their wants (crime would increase). I wish residents would think again. If they strolled around the boot sales they would see the attraction, not only to recycle but a social event that creates pleasure to young and old!

**M WARD
Bilston**

Games set a good example

WELL done Glasgow and Scotland for producing a fantastic Commonwealth Games.

They were brilliant.

Now that we are going to be bombarded by football again, can I request that all managers make their players watch from start to finish the Commonwealth Games Men's cycle road race.

The weather conditions were foul, yet Geraint Thomas won it in style.

It was a very fitting end to almost two weeks of compelling viewing.

It was great to watch competitors from countries with no facilities, and therefore no hope in their particular events, trying to bring pride to their people by finishing alone on the track, but still trying.

**P COLE
Kingswinford**

Bless kindness of strangers

I WRITE to pay tribute to the wonderful kindness of the people in and around Stourbridge.

I have serious health problems. I struggle to reach home with my shopping.

Time and time again strangers help me all the way home.

I have lots of falls and once again it is wonderful how help comes fast.

To say thank you is inadequate but I do bless everyone of you.

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Ebola is a threat to our island

ON reading several reports on the outbreak of Ebola, I, like I suspect many others, was concerned by the fact that many of the world's experts were worried that there was more than a slight chance that it might find its way into Europe.

Imagine my profound sense of relief on learning that our ever vigilant border control officers have been put on a heightened state of alert to try to intercept any would be carriers, thereby stopping it in its tracks.

Would this be the same set of border control personnel who somehow managed to mislay several thousand illegal immigrants in the recent past? Forgive me if I don't put much faith in their ability to keep this terrible disease at bay.

Let's make a concerted effort to secure our borders and keep them secure. Can anyone even begin to imagine what a rapidly spreading disease like Ebola would do to our little island? Pray God we never have to find out.

**B PARSONS
Coseley**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk

Scots can't go it alone if keeping our currency

HAVING watched some of Scotland's independence debate on TV, it occurs to me that Alex Salmond has set himself up for a knockout blow.

Perhaps if Alastair Darling had thought a bit quicker on his feet, it could all be over bar the shouting.

Salmond's insistence that Scotland can exist as an independent country to rival any other small country is completely undermined by his equally strong insistence that Scotland should maintain sterling as its currency. By keeping Sterling he is actually admitting that Scotland cannot be independent because it is incapable of supporting its own currency, a fundamental duty of any independent nation.

Relying on Britain's cur-

rency makes Scotland's financial security completely dependent on Britain. Therefore it cannot be truly independent.

Mr Salmond is showing contempt for the rest of Britain by expecting us to underpin Scotland's economy using our currency without Scotland contributing. If British taxpayers are expected to provide such assistance, shouldn't the rest of Britain have a say in the referendum?

Mr Salmond bemoans Scotland being dictated to by a Tory government, but if his SNP had not taken votes from Labour and Liberals in the General Election, the Tories might not be in such a strong position now.

**M CLIFF
Wall Heath**

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Don't be disappointed - choose Choices Windows

The home improvement market is changing and the demand for more choice in colour and suitability of PVC-U doors and windows is growing. Fashionable additions such as orangeries are increasingly desirable, as more people look for ways to improve their home.

Established since 1994, Tipton Windows & Conservatories Ltd, trading as Choices, believe that the latest trends are important, but quality products and exceptional service will always be paramount, which this family run business have proven over two decades.

Situated on Sedgley Road West in Tipton, the founder and company Managing Director Nathan Beddows started the business from scratch at the early age of 19 working out of the very same premises as he does today. He explains his passion:

"I cannot stress enough how much pride we take in every window, door, conservatory, orangery we manufacture and install."

With its roots in manufacturing, the business started more than 20 years ago, and right from the very start an emphasis has been placed on supplying only the finest and most energy-efficient products, but still remaining affordable.

"Our commitment extends beyond the manufacturing process to the design and installation of doors, windows, conservatories and other home improvement services," explains Nathan.

"For some customers we supply new windows and doors, for others we provide a complete home improvement service from building extensions and fitting kitchens, to designing and installing conservatories and more recently Orangeries," says Nathan.

One tremendously satisfied customer is Rick Houghton. Having been recommended to Choices Windows by colleagues at work he employed them to carry out extensive work at his home, he is keen to share his experiences and commend the team involved.

"Every stage of the process was excellently planned and we received nothing but the best service from start to finish. The tradesmen were outstanding and we were so impressed that we handed over our keys and went on holiday whilst the work was being carried out."

Rick and his family were absolutely thrilled and utterly delighted with the results on their return.

"We are so grateful to Nathan and his team for transforming our home into something we could only have dreamed of," remarked Rick.

Keen to keep ahead in the style stakes, Nathan is ever aware of the latest designs, materials and colours on offer, and strives to make these available to his customers.

"Many people are now opting for stylish coloured PVC-U, influenced by timeless muted 'National Trust' tones. Sage green, gun metal grey and cream are all becoming very fashionable alongside the traditional clean bright white," explains Nathan.

Fitting new PVC-U windows can be a good choice for the environment as well as for your home. Replacing dated double glazing can help save money on heating bills and reduce the carbon footprint of a residence.

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"As a company we pride ourselves on giving old fashioned value for money and excellent service, we can undertake the majority of jobs and because we manufacture in house at our premises unlike the majority of our local competitors it enables us to have full control so we can manage your project from start to completion ensuring your experience is stress free".

"After many years in the Double glazing business we have seen a lot of competitors come and go, unfortunately leaving many customers without any warranty, after parting with their hard earned cash. Any customer who is considering having any home improvements should choose carefully and do their homework on the company they are considering, ensure if you part with money upfront it is protected by a Fensa approved deposit indemnity scheme, ask to visit previous customers but most importantly don't be fooled by the salesmen's tactics of a tempting "sign on the night low price offer" that the double glazing industry is notorious for "advises Nathan.

The old sayings are always the best - after a low price is long forgotten, poor quality long remains".

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Hundreds still help Harry to help others

HUNDREDS of people enjoyed a fun-filled family festival of activities organised in memory of well known young fundraiser Harry Moseley.

Merry Hill shopping centre welcomed families to the HarryFest event. Activities and games took place on a converted car park outside Eat Central at the Brierley Hill mall.

Harry Moseley, from Birmingham, died aged 11 from an incurable brain tumour in 2011.

But during his battle with the disease he set up the charity Help Harry Help Others which to date has raised more than £600,000 for research into the disease.

Superhero

His family has continued the work Harry started and this weekend's event is part of the ongoing fundraising drive.

Youngsters were entertained with a fun fair, a superhero-themed photo booth, live music from pop singers, dancing, a roller disco, balloon modelling and face painting too.

Staff from various stores in the shopping centre also donned fancy dress for the two-day event that was held on Friday and Saturday at Brierley Hill helping to raise money for the Help Harry Help Others charity.

Among those joining the fun were hairdressers Jessica McKoy, aged 19, from Holly Hall, Dudley, and Jenna Fellows, 27, from Pensnett, who dressed up as superheroes for the event.

Jessica said: "It is a good event and we love to dress up anyway, so we absolutely loved it."

"We got some strange looks when going to get some food but it was great."



Mum Georgie Moseley with Brian Blackwell



In the pink — Maddison Edwards



Jessica McKoy, left, and Jenna Fellows



Bethany Wood, Luvleena Kau, Gaby Richardson

Harry's proud mother Georgie Moseley attended the event with her partner Brian Blackwell. They are doing a bike ride as part of a fundraising drive for the charity.

She said: "Harry had such a fun-loving nature, so this is a perfect event to celebrate his legacy as the charity continues to help those on their cancer journey."

It is not the first time Merry Hill has linked up with the charity to boost its fundraising efforts. Proceeds from the centre's Christmas Lights switch-on ceremony last December were also donated to the cause.

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Cancer survivor raises £6k to rescue charity



Kelly Mullings, 23, with a photo of Paul Ackrill and his cousin Lesley watched by charity boss Paul's mother Gill

WHEN Kelly Mullings was told she had cancer, her whole world was on the verge of falling apart.

The 23-year-old sports student from Brierley Hill was determined not to let the diagnosis stop her active lifestyle.

Miss Mullings, of Nagnersfield Road, diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma last December, threw herself into fundraising to help a charity which supports people like her. During six months of treatment she raised £6,000 to stop the Paul Ackrill Fund folding.

Her battle with cancer started

when she found a lump on her collar bone in May 2013. Kellys said: "I had some initial blood tests and they didn't show anything. I felt fit and healthy so didn't think much more about it but in September last year I got really bad night sweats so I went back for more tests and they showed it was cancer."

The lump was removed in December.

Kelly said: "The hardest part was having to stop my PE teaching but I thought, I am not going to just sit back and do nothing but be a cancer patient, that's not me. When I heard about the Paul Ackrill Foundation and

their fundraising struggle I thought this is a project I am going to take on."

Her target was £2,000 but the former Wordsley School pupil raised £6,010.71 through sports events, collections, donations and a triathlon.

Gill Ackrill, 69, of Brierley Hill, set up the charity after her son Paul died of cancer in 2001. She said: "Like Kelly, he was determined to get on with his life and had wanted to help other people. In his memory I was determined to go ahead with the charity. We have given out £150,000 over the years. The money Kelly has raised will see us through to next year."

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Bill to meet baboon — not a funky gibbon



Billie the Baboon is the first of his kind to be born at Dudley Zoo and is to get a celebrity visitor

MEET baby Billie, the first Gelada baboon born at Dudley Zoo. Born July 8 to mum Addis and dad Ebano, Billie is named after conservationist and TV Presenter, Bill Oddie, who in the 1970s had a pop hit Funky Gibbon when one of comedy trio The Goodies.

Bill will be opening the zoo's £20,000 Baboons on the Bank exhibit at noon on Bank Holiday Monday, August 25.

Gorgeous

Head of Media and Communications, Jill Hitchman, said: "Billie is gorgeous and is already very alert."

"He loves watching what is going on around him and is already starting to communicate with the other group members through facial expressions, which is how the species interacts."

The baby also shares the half-an-acre natural hillside enclosure with females, Jimma and Tana, who are taking it in turns as 'aunties' caring for the youngster.

The youngster then begin to gain independence at around five-months-old.

Outcry at bid to knock down pub landmark

FRESH calls have been made to preserve a dilapidated landmark pub in Dudley which is at risk of being demolished.

Jahorina Limited, which bought the King Arthur pub on the corner of Birmingham New Road and Priory Road for more than £1.3 million, wants to flatten the building.

Developers believe the 1930s building does not have a viable future as a pub and the site would be better used as the site for a new store.

By Heather Large

But history enthusiasts have written to Dudley Council to lodge objections to the proposals, saying the building is worth saving as an example of between the wars architecture.

Chairman of St John's Church Preservation Group, which is working to restore the church in Kates Hill, Del Brownlee has lodged an objection. In the letter she says: "This building is a significant landmark in Dudley and adds to the character of the town. Surely with the Wrens Nest National Nature Reserve, The Dudley Canal Trust, The Black Country Living Museum, an extensive canal network and Dudley Zoo only minutes away from the site, an imaginative scheme could be found for this magnificent building?"

Christine Buckley, of All Saints Vicarage in Sedgley, adds: "Buildings like the

King Arthur are part of residents' personal histories, the history of the borough as a whole and it's distinctive character. When they're gone, they're gone."

But there has also been letters of support for redevelopment of the site.

The pub, built in 1939 by Dudley architects Webb and Gray, closed in 2012. English Heritage decided against listed status due to loss of original features.

Meanwhile, a campaign has been launched to save a popular Sedgley pub from being replaced by a super-market.

More than 300 have signed a petition calling on Marston's to keep The Seven Stars in Gospel End Road open as a pub. Campaigners launched a petition after hearing that the brewery pub group was considering selling it to Morrisons.

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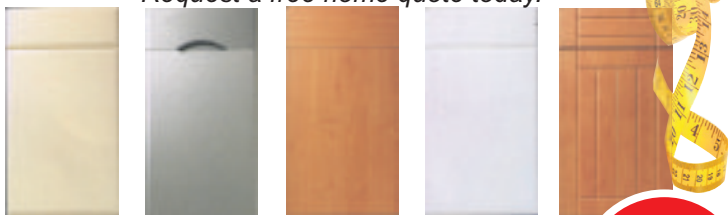
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Couple's blooming lovely garden is a true tonic



Pick of the bunch — Don and Barbara Hall, of Abbingdon Road, Netherton, are pictured in their award-winning garden.

THIS beautiful garden is Donald Hall's pride and joy and is proving a tonic as he fights his second cancer battle.

It has won competitions in the past and was selected as the pick of the bunch when Mr Hall and his wife Barbara scooped first prize in a contest run by florists Bunches and Bows.

The couple's garden at their home, in Abbingdon Road, Netherton, is packed with everything from marigolds to begonias.

Mr Hall, whose wife Barbara, aged 72, is a retired florist, has used his

garden as a place of comfort since his prostate cancer diagnosis early this year. It comes after he battled back from tongue cancer in 2005.

The 75-year-old said: "Most people don't get to say this but this is the second time I have been diagnosed. I don't let it get to me and looking after the garden takes up a lot of my time."

The former car components inspector met his wife Barbara 10 years ago at Wood Farm Golf and Country club in Essington. Together they manage to keep their beautiful garden in the best shape possible.

He said: "We have won first and

second prize in this competition in previous years but it was absolutely beautiful to win it this year because I have put a lot of time into the garden.

"I have put over 20 hanging baskets up and spent a lot of time looking after the flowers and plants. Me and Barbara work together well, I do the planting and she does the dead-heading and the watering. We make a good team and this win proves that."

"People always comment on how beautiful our garden is. We would like to enter it into more competitions but we haven't been able to find any more."

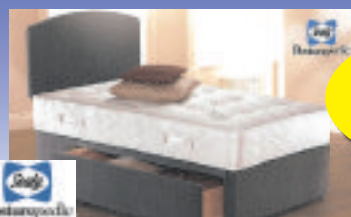
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Bowled over by beer at cricket club festival



Bronya Webster from Lye and Wollescote Royal British Legion bowls for cricket club chairman Dave Borley

VISITORS to a cricket club are likely to be stumped for choice by the array of ales, ciders and perries on offer at its annual beer festival.

Around 80 different drinks will be tempting the tastebuds at the Black Country Beer Festival at Lye Cricket Club from today to Saturday.

There will also be live music throughout the weekend and a food marquee offering a range of dishes from pizza to faggots and peas. Visitors will also be able to watch cricket matches during the festival.

Club chairman Dave Borley said the event is anticipated to attract up to 1,000 people over the three days.

The event will be supporting the Lye and Wollescote branch of the Royal British Legion.

There will be collections and a cricket challenge to raise funds.

Continental

A selection of bottled continental beers and ciders will also be available along with popular summer drink Pimm's.

The festival was set up in August 2010 by the club and Sadler's Ales

but was hit by a huge setback before last year's event after the pavilion was gutted in an arson attack.

Defiant members went ahead with the beer festival despite the blaze and earlier this year they re-opened the clubhouse following a £70,000 restoration project.

The entrance fee for this weekend's event is £10 with £2 off for Camra members, which includes drinks tokens, a glass and a programme.

The Cricket Pavilion Bar is sponsored by the Stourbridge-based Green Duck Brewery this year and will be home to six of their ales.

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Double delight with music duos

ALBUM REVIEWS

GOOD music is coming at the double this summer with three female duos producing contrasting but well-accomplished albums.

The relocation of Alabama siblings **The Pierces** to California has paid dividends with a classic West Coast feel to their new album **Creation**. If breakthrough *You & I* was sunshine pop then *Creation* introduces a little melancholy shadow into their harmonious sound. Songs like *Believe In Me* and *Honest Man* could appeal to Fleetwood Mac fans, whilst *Must Be Something* and the gorgeous *Elements* even channel some Abba spirit. Catch Allison and Catherine at Birmingham Glee Club on September 24.

Feisty Glaswegians **Stina Tweeddale** (vocals/guitar) and **Shona McVicar** (drums) deliver punky power pop with plenty of 'don't mess with us' attitude on their swaggering eponymous debut **Honeyblood**. Killer Bangs delivers a sugar rush whilst *I'd Rather Be Anywhere But Here* shows their bittersweet side. They should raise the roof at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath on September 26.

Ward Thomas sound like the latest rising stars from Nashville but these 20-year-old twins are from Hampshire. Singers and songwriters **Lizzy** and **Catherine** impress with the honky tonk opener *Push For The Stride* and contemporary country toe-tappers on their debut **From Where We Stand**. Ward Thomas play Birmingham Glee with The Shires on November 4.

Irish singer/songwriter **Sinead O'Connor** marks 30 years making music with **I'm Not Bossy, I'm The Boss**, her most accessible and rocking album for many years. She's apparently rejuvenated on the cover (thanks to a wig



Heavenly harmony pop from sisters **Catherine, left, and Allison Pierce** and figure-hugging rubber) but this is special because of the blend of vulnerability and maturity in her remarkably emotive voice. She hits her righteously strident stride on *Take Me To Church* and *Streetscars* makes a tender finale.

It's been a long wait for **La Roux's** second album, five years in fact, but **Ely Jackson** has finally delivered an excellent blend of disco and synth pop that surpasses her 1980s obsessed debut. **Trouble In Paradise** is short at nine tracks in just over 40 minutes, but boasts songs that do that *deja vu* familiarity trick, including *Chic-like* *Uptight Downtown* and *Blondie flavoured* *Kiss And Not Tell*. Catch her at The Institute in Digbeth on November 8.

Welsh pop maverick and sometime genius **Gruff Rhys**, formerly of *Super Furry Animals*, blends melancholy pop and rollicking rockabilly on **American Interior**, an eccentric concept album about the quest for a Welsh speaking Native American tribe. Be enlightened

when he plays Birmingham Glee Club on September 15.

Charlie Simpson finally escapes the shadow of his band *Busted* (he refused to join *McBusted*) with folk-tinted pop rock album **Long Road Home** which is a real grower with its memorable title track and the Mumford-like *Comets*.

International hit *Budapest* has catapulted **George Ezra**, a guitar-slinging singer/songwriter from Hertford with a smoky deep voice that belies his youth (he's 21), to the upper reaches of the album charts with his debut album **Wanted On Voyage**. He will be in concert at The Institute in Digbeth on October 25.

Escape to the 1950s exotica of **Les Baxter** on the *Cherry Red* reissue of his kitsch orchestral tunes inspired by tropical islands and the mysterious east. It features original lounge classic **Quiet Village** plus lots of bonus material. Pour yourself a Mai Tai and enjoy. **Leon Burakowski**

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CHOICE



Joan Collins

TV's Nastiest Villains with Joan Collins (Channel 5, 9pm)

If the old adage 'good guys finish last' is true, prepare to meet the winners. Yes, it's another of those cheap and cheerful countdown shows with some of the world's great small screen bad guys and girls. There's no surprise to find Channel 5 favourites Stefan Dennis and Linda Gray here giving their opinion on the likes of 'Neighbours' love to hate villain Paul Robinson, and much-missed Dallas bad guy JR Hagman (aka Larry Hagman). Your hostess is Joan Collins, who knew just how to get the blood boiling as Alexis Carrington in Dynasty. Other femme fatales featured are Tanya Turner of Footballers' Wives and EastEnders' Janine Butcher, and there's also the anti-hero who created perfect screen chemistry in Breaking Bad, Walter White.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Food & Drink. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 12.50 Saturday Sportsday. 1.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.00 Live Athletics: European Championships. 4.30 Final Score. 5.20 BBC News: Regional News: Weather. 5.40 Pointless Celebrities.

6.30 **Timble.** Alex Jones hosts the gymnastics contest, as the 10 famous faces return for the second week of the competition. Five of the celebrities and their professional partners will perform acrobatic floor routines, while the remainder take to the aerial hoop. The two contenders with the total lowest best scores from the first and second week will then face The Vault, where head judge Nadia Comaneci will decide who to eliminate and who to save. Joining the world-renowned Olympic gymnast to offer their expert opinion are Sebastian Stella, Craig Heap and Team GB medalist Louis Smith. The programme also includes a showcase performance from multi-medal winning gymnast Beth Tweddle, featuring the UK's best up-and-coming gymnastic talent.

8.00 The National Lottery: Break the Safe. Nick Knowles hosts the game show in which three pairs compete to play for a cash prize. United v John Gaby Roslin as she presents the National Lottery results.

8.50 Casualty. Cal and Ethan jointly solve a medical mystery, while Rita comes to the aid of a patient struggling to come to terms with a secret – but compromises her chance of promotion.

9.40 Mrs Brown's Boys. Agnes is excited about Rory and Dino's big day, until she meets their flamboyant wedding planner, while Father Damien raises concerns about the ceremony. Last in the series. (R)

10.10 BBC News: Weather. **10.30 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the opening Premier League matches of the season, including Manchester United v Swansea City and Arsenal v Crystal Palace; National Lottery Update.

11.55 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents.

1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.20 BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Film: Blackbeard the Pirate. (1952) **7.45 Live Athletics: European Championships.** 10.45 Great British Railway Journeys. (R) 11.15 Animal Park. (R) 12.00 Sweets Made Simple. (R) 12.30 Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds. (R) 1.00 David Niven: Talking Pictures. (R) 1.50 Film: The First of the Few. (1942) Wartime biopic, directed by and starring Leslie Howard. 3.45 Flog It! (R) 4.30 Live Athletics: European Championships. Coverage of day five from Zurich. 5.15 Live Equestrian. The Global Champions Tour meeting from London.

7.00 Proms Extra 2014. Katie Derham is joined by soprano Patricia Rozario, composer and conductor Peter Maxwell Davies, and baritone Roderick Williams, who performs at the end of the programme.

7.45 Dad's Army. The older members of the platoon enjoy the drastic action when they are threatened with being made air-raid wardens, transforming themselves in a bid to appear younger. (R)

8.15 Great War Diaries. The final batch of dramatic reconstructions based on the letters and journals of people whose lives were affected by the First World War. An Australian piano teacher tries to get home from behind enemy lines, an Italian-American leads a revolt in a mental institution, a German soldier is involved in a mutiny, and a schoolgirl attempts suicide. An experienced English journalist is sickened by the Allies' behaviour as the war comes to a close, a French boy witnesses the German retreat and a Cossack woman is caught up in the Russian Revolution. Last in the series.

9.15 Andrew Marr's Great Scots. New series. The broadcaster explores the lives of writers who have defined and challenged Scottish national identity over the past 300 years, beginning with James Boswell.

10.15 50: XL. An extended edition of the quiz, as Stephen Fry asks Victoria Coren Mitchell, Bill Bailey, Jimmy Carr and Alan Davies questions on the topic of jargon.

11.00 Film: Oranges and Sunshine. (2010) Fact-based drama, starring Emily Watson and Hugo Weaving.

12.40 Film: Wilbur (Wants to Kill Himself). (2003) 2.20 This is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Pat & Stan. 6.10 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.20 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.25 Dino Dan. (R) 6.50 Canimals. (R) 6.55 Canimals. (R) 7.05 Sooty. (R) 7.15 Nerdz & Monsters. (R) 7.25 Nerdz & Monsters. (R) 7.40 Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) 7.55 Chowder. (R) 8.10 Chowder. (R) 8.25 ITV News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 The Hungry Sallies. (R) 10.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.20 ITV News: Weather. 11.25 Film: Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot. (1991) 1.25 The Unforgettable Gordon Jackson. (R) 1.55 Peter Andre's 60 Minute Makeover. (R) 2.55 Film: Smokey and the Bandit II. (1980) Road comedy, starring Burt Reynolds. 4.50 Film: Mr Bean's Holiday. (2007) Comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson.

6.20 Regional Programme: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather.

6.45 You've Been Framed and Famous! Harry Hill showcases some of the best celebrity lookalike clips sent in by viewers. (R)

7.45 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars. Former Pussycat Doll and Dancing on Ice judge Ashley Roberts, singer and presenter Jamelia and TV host Jeff Brazier take turns on the arcade-style token-pushing machine. Dropping counters down a choice of four chutes, the celebrity contestants have to knock pieces of them off a moving shelf – and the more they collect, the better their chances of scooping the £20,000 prize for a charity of their choice. Game show, hosted by Ben Shepherd.

8.45 All Star Family Fortunes. Hollywood star Danny Mac (Mark "Dodger" Savage) and Claire Richards from Steps team up with their families in an attempt to win big money for charity. Vernon Kay hosts. (R)

9.45 Film: Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back. (1980) The rebels are dispersed after an attack on their secret base and Luke Skywalker goes in search of a Jedi master. Sci-fi film sequel, starring Mark Hamill and Harrison Ford. Continues after the first film.

10.40 ITV News: Weather.

10.55 Film: Star Wars: Episode V – The Empire Strikes Back. (1980) Concluded.

12.25 Jackpot247. 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.40 ITV NightScreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) 6.35 Trans World Sport. 7.30 The Morning Line. 8.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.25 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.55 Frasier. (R) 10.25 Frasier. (R) 10.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.20 The Simpsons. (R) 11.55 The Simpsons. (R) 12.25 Speed with Guy Martin. (R) 1.25 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Newbury, Newmarket and Ripon. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.40 Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.15 Come Dine with Me. The confident Stelios Michael hosts the final night in Hastings, East Sussex, hoping to impress his guests with a Greek-inspired evening. The diners get involved when they receive a masterclass in the country's traditional dance, before the winner of the £1,000 prize is announced. (R)

6.40 Channel 4 News.

7.05 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud follows the progress of architect Richard Hawkes and his wife Sophie, as they move from London to the Kent countryside to build a hi-tech eco-friendly house with room to grow their own food. Richard also wants their new home to blend effortlessly into the surrounding countryside, concealed beneath a huge arch of clay tiles covered with earth and planted with grass. (R)

8.00 Film: Iron Man. (2008) Arms manufacturer Tony Stark is taken hostage by a terrorist group and realises the weapons his company builds have been falling into the wrong hands. Using his engineering skills to construct a hi-tech armoured suit, he manages to escape and then puts the technology to good use in the fight against evil around the world. Superior adventures. Starring Robert Downey Jr, Jeff Bridges, Gwyneth Paltrow and Terrence Howard.

10.25 Film: District 9. (2009) A South African bureaucrat gets stranded in an internment camp designed to segregate alien refugees from the human population. Sci-fi drama, starring Sharlto Copley and Jason Cope.

12.35 The Last Leg. (R) 1.20 Utopia. (R) 2.20 Homeland. (R) 4.10 Hollywood. Omnibus. Tony and Sinead are almost caught out when Diane returns unexpectedly.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Access. 10.05 Police Interceptors. (R) 11.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.00 Film: The Golden Voyage of Sinbad. (1974) Fantasy adventure, starring John Phillip Law. 3.05 Film: Rocky V. (1990) Boxing drama sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone. 5.05 Film: North Sea Hijack. (1979) Thriller, starring Roger Moore.

7.00 Cricket on 5. England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from day two of the Fifth Test, held at the Oval, as the final match of the series continued. England have won just one of their last four Tests here, but that victory came against India in 2011. Commentary and analysis by Geoffrey Boycott, Michael Vaughan, Sunil Gavaskar and Simon Hughes.

8.00 The Last Secrets of 9/11. Documentary following the work of a team from New York City's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, who identify the victims of the September 11 attacks from the fragments of human remains found in the debris of the World Trade Centre. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 TV's Nastiest Villains with Joan Collins. The actress announces the results of an online poll in which viewers were asked to vote for the TV characters they love to hate, drawing on the worlds of soap, drama, game shows, talent shows and reality TV. The male representatives include JR Ewing from Dallas and Breaking Bad's Walter White, while women featured are Collins' own portrayal of Alexis Colby in Dynasty and Tanya Turner of Footballers' Wives fame. Featuring contributions by Linda Gray (Dallas), Claire King (Bad Girls), former Apprentice candidate Kate Hopkins, Popstars judge Nicki Chapman, Stefan Dennis (Neighbours), Brian Capron (Coronation Street) and Billy Murray and Larry Lamb (EastEnders).

11.55 Access.

12.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 The Hungerford Massacre: Killing Spree. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 5.15 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three 7.00 Doctor Who 8.00 Top Gear 9.05 Live at the Apollo 10.05 Russell Howard's Good News 11.05 Family Guy 2.00 Sexy Beasts 2.30 People Just Do Nothing 3.30 Russell Howard's Good News 4.00 Close

BBC Four 7.00 Human Planet 8.00 Tales from the National Parks 9.00 Inspector Montalbano 10.35 John Denver: Country Boy 11.35 John Denver at Wembley Arena 12.15 An Evening with Glen Campbell 1.35 Human Planet 2.35 Tales from the National Parks 3.35 Close

ITV2 12.00 Dinner Date: Australia 1.50 You've Been Framed! 2.20 Film: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004) 4.10 You've Been Framed! Top 100 Kids 5.10 You've Been Framed! and Famous! 6.15 You've Been Framed! 6.45 Film: Back to the Future Part II (1989) 9.00 Film: The Shawshank Redemption (1994) 11.55 Film: Batman Returns (1992) 2.25 You've Been Framed! 2.50 Teleshopping

ITV3 12.50 Bertie and Elizabeth 2.55 A Touch of Frost 7.00 Lewis 8.00 Foyle's War 11.00 Bomb Girls 12.00 Film: Columbo: Fade in to Murder (1976) 1.30 World Kitchen 2.20 ITV3 NightScreen

ITV4 1.10 Film: Battle of the Bulge (1965) 4.30 British Superbike Championship Highlights 6.00 The Motorbike Show 7.00 Storage Wars 8.00 Silverstone Classic 2014 9.00 Film: You Only Live Twice (1967) 11.25 Film: Fight Club (1999) 2.15 Police Camera, Action! 2.40 Movies Now 2.50 ITV4 NightScreen 3.00 Teleshopping 3.30 The Store

E4 11.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 12.30 The Big Bang Theory 1.30 Film: Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events (2004) 3.35 The Big Bang Theory 4.30 Melissa & Joey 5.30 Made in Chelsea NYC 6.35 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 7.00 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: The Twilight Saga: New Moon (2009) 10.40 The 100 11.40 The Big Bang Theory 12.40 Virtually Famous 1.30 Almost Royal 2.00 How I Met Your Mother 3.15 The Cleveland Show 4.00 Suburgatory

Film4 11.00 A Challenge for Robin Hood (1987) 1.00 Escape to Victory (1981) 3.15 Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (2009) 5.00 Fantastic Mr Fox (2009) 6.40 Mona Lisa Smile (2003) 9.00 Salt (2010) 10.55 Tucker & Dale vs Evil (2010) 12.40 Silent Hill (2006) 3.15 Close

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CHOICE



Matthew McNulty

The Great War: The People's Story (ITV, 9pm)
A century after the conflict began, there are no British First World War soldiers left to share their experiences with us, but that doesn't mean their stories can't still be told in their own words. If you missed the first episode, this series uses the letters and diaries of people who lived through the Great War. This second episode also provides a fascinating insight into medical history, as it explores the experiences of Reg Evans (Daniel Mays), who underwent pioneering plastic surgery after being shot in the face. If that sounds surprisingly modern for the First World War, we're also about to learn that celebrity chefs aren't an entirely new phenomenon, as we hear excerpts from the diaries of fashionable restaurateur Hallie Mills (Alison Steadman).

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 8.35 Match of the Day. (R) **10.00 Sunday Morning Live.** **11.00 Wanted Down Under.** (R) **11.45 Helicopter Heroes** Down Under. (R) **12.15 MOTD2 Extra.** **1.00 BBC News;** Weather. **1.15 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **2.15 Best of Homes Under the Hammer.** (R) **2.45 Eat Well for Less?** (R) **3.45 Escape to the Country.** (R) **4.30 The Great British Bake Off.** (R) **5.30 Songs of Praise.**
6.05 Deadly on a Mission: Pole to Pole. Steve Backshall embarks on another quest to track down the world's most dangerous animals, and begins by searching for polar bears, walrus and muskoxen in the Arctic. (R)
6.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
7.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the experts visit Blair Castle in Perthshire to examine items including a collection of valuable miniatures and a Mickey Mouse toy with a poignant history. They also look at a wooden spoon whose humble appearance belies its intriguing past. (R)
8.00 Countryfile. As a result of a viewer suggestion, John Craven and Shauna Lowry visit the Sperrin Mountains in Northern Ireland, a largely unknown but beautiful part of the region. Exploring the area by foot, Shauna heads to an old blacksmith's forge that was made famous by its inclusion in a Seamus Heaney poem. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.
9.00 The Village. Phoebe, the stationmaster's daughter, invites Bert to go to the new dancehall, while Grace decides to join the cycling club for a ride out. Elsewhere, Marie Stope's caravan arrives.
10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.
10.25 Match of the Day 2. Liverpool v Southampton and Newcastle United v Manchester City. Mark Chapman introduces highlights of the Premier League matches at Anfield and St James' Park respectively.
11.25 Film: The 51st State. (2001) An American drug dealer heads for Liverpool to make one last sale, with a hitwoman working for his old boss in hot pursuit. Action comedy, with Samuel L Jackson.
12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.55 BBC News.

BBC2

6.45 Alan Titchmarsh's Garden Secrets. (R) **7.45 Live Athletics:** European Championships. **10.30 The Football League Show.** (R) **11.50 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** **1.20 Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds.** (R) **1.50 Live Athletics:** European Championships. Further coverage of day six from Zurich. **4.50 Flag It!** (R) **5.30 Great Continental Railway Journeys.** (R)
6.00 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip. Dinnerladies co-stars Anne Reid and Thelma Barlow team up with antiques experts Paul Laidlaw and David Harper for a road trip around Oxfordshire. Armed with a classic car and £400 each, the two actresses compete to buy antiques to sell for a profit at auction in Penkridge, Staffordshire. Along the way, a visit to see wartime artwork conjures up emotional memories for Anne. (R)
7.00 Tropic of Capricorn. Simon Reeve embarks on the third leg of his journey, crossing the vast expanse of mainland Australia. Heading east from Ningaloo Reef, the explorer comes across a ghost town in Wittenoom Gorge, contaminated beyond habitation by a nearby asbestos mine. Travelling across the Northern Territory, Simon witnesses the shocking living conditions endured by Aboriginal communities in the shadow of Uluru. (R)
8.00 Dragons' Den. More people bid to win funding for their projects from the panel, including an 18-year-old seeking to impress with his garden shed invention. There is a rip-roaring entrance by a Kent-based gaming entrepreneur and the Dragons get a taste of Colombia's finest cocoa beans. Will anyone be able to walk away with a deal? Evan Davis presents.
9.00 James May's Cars of the People. The Top Gear presenter explores the weird world of the microcar, discovering how austerity and fears of congestion led to a variety of disastrous European vehicles.
10.00 Film: The Prestige. (2006) Two Victorian magicians become bitter rivals as one becomes obsessed with the secret to the other's greatest illusion. Mystery thriller, starring Hugh Jackman.
12.05 Sign Zone: Countryfile: Summer Special. (R) **1.00 Holby City.** (R) **2.00 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 CITY: Pat & Stan. **6.25 Dino Dan.** (R) **7.45 Live Athletics:** Long Course Weekend. **8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.30 Nerds & Monsters.** (R) **7.25 Nerds & Monsters.** (R) **7.40 Mr Bean: The Animated Series.** (R) **7.55 Chowder.** (R) **8.10 Chowder.** (R) **8.25 ITV News.** **8.30 Weekend.** **9.25 May the Best House Win.** (R) **10.25 Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **11.20 ITV News; Weather.** **11.30 Love Your Garden.** (R) **12.30 Long Lost Family.** (R) **1.30 Film: Columbus: Identity Crisis.** (1975) **3.30 Midsomer Murders.** (R) **5.30 Tipping Point.** (R)
6.35 Regional Programme; Weather. **6.45 ITV News;** Weather.
7.00 Come On Down! The Game Show Story. Bradley Walsh focuses on the quiz show in the second of four programmes. He hears the intriguing story of Mastermind's creation and sits in the famous black chair himself for an interrogation by presenter John Humphrys. He also meets former London cabbie Fred Housego, who shot to fame after his 1980 win on the programme. Bamber Gascoigne and Nicholas Parsons discuss the evolving role of the quizmaster over the decades and there's a look at how Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? changed the course of TV history when Judith Keppel became its first jackpot winner. Plus, a quiz-show scandal in the late 1950s, long before Millionaire's Coughing Major controversy.
8.00 The Zoo. Vets face a difficult decision regarding a sick 15-year-old lioness following an exploratory operation, while a keeper begins a new role training chimps one-on-one.
9.00 The Great War: The People's Story. Reg Evans (played by Daniel Mays) undergoes pioneering plastic surgery, while job opportunities open up for a society cook (Alison Steadman) and a suffragette (Romola Garai).
10.00 ITV News; Weather.
10.15 Kids with Cameras: Diary of a Children's Ward. A 12-year-old boy recovers from a stroke caused by a freak accident, while an eight-year-old with muscular dystrophy takes part in a medical trial hoping to improve his symptoms. (R)
11.15 The Cube. (R)
12.15 The Store. **2.00 Motorsport UK.** **2.50 British Superbike Championship Highlights.** **4.00 Britain's Best Bakery.** (R) **4.50 ITV Nightscreen.** **5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35 Caterham Motorsport.** (R) **6.50 Abby's Flying Fairy School.** (R) **6.25 Bubble Guppies.** (R) **8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **9.00 Frasier.** (R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch.** **12.35 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces.** (R) **1.40 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.10 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.40 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **3.10 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.40 The Simpsons.** (R) **4.10 Deal or No Deal.** **5.15 Channel 4 News.** **5.45 Film: Water for Elephants.** (2011)
8.00 The Mill. William is forced to lower wages as the cotton industry feels the impact of the recession, but the news doesn't go down well with Daniel, who believes the workers should withdraw their labour. Preparing for the worst, the boss mobilises troops in the area and appoints John to lead a new band of special constables. Esther's views on strike action change when the consequences of the cuts put her son Billy's life in danger and she joins Daniel at the forefront of the protest. However, when tensions escalate, William arms his men with clubs and sticks. Elsewhere, as Hannah's health declines, she receives a parcel from the plantation in Dominica and is horrified by its contents.
9.00 Richard III: The New Evidence. Since the discovery of Richard III's remains under a car park in Leicester, scientists have been subjecting the 15th-century English king's skeleton to intense scrutiny and analysis, allowing them to reassemble his life in detail. Using the latest techniques, experts have been able to define the extent to which his spinal deformity would have affected his ability to be the warrior famed for leading the charge at the Battle of Bosworth. They have also pieced together his diet and revealed his lifestyle in his final years, with surprising results.
10.00 Film: The Taking of Pelham 123. (2009) Criminals hijack a crowded New York subway train and threaten to kill the passengers unless they are paid \$10million. Thriller remake, with Denzel Washington and John Travolta.
12.05 Film: Good Morning, Vietnam. (1987) **2.10 Wallis Simpson: The Secret Letters.** (R) **3.05 First Time Farmers.** (R) **4.05 The Million Pound Drop.** (R) **5.00 Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites.** (R) **5.05 Deal or No Deal.** (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05 Roary the Racing Car.** (R) **6.15 Abby's Flying Fairy School.** (R) **6.25 Bubble Guppies.** (R) **6.35 The Mr Men Show.** (R) **6.45 Milkshake! Monkey.** (R) **6.50 Chloe's Closet.** (R) **7.05 Roobarb and Custard Too.** (R) **7.10 Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) **7.25 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.40 City of Friends.** (R) **7.50 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures.** (R) **7.55 Little Princess.** (R) **8.10 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky.** (R) **8.20 Milkshake! Bop Box.** (R) **8.25 Angelina Ballerina.** (R) **8.40 Olly the Little White Van.** (R) **8.45 Rupert Bear.** (R) **9.00 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **9.15 Jelly Jamm.** (R) **9.30 LazyTown.** (R) **10.00 Access.** **10.15 Highland Emergency.** (R) **10.45 Police Interceptors.** (R) **11.45 Police Interceptors.** (R) **12.40 Police Interceptors.** (R) **1.40 Film: White Fang.** (1991) Adventure, starring Ethan Hawke. **3.45 Film: James and the Giant Peach.** (1996) **5.15 Film: The Hunchback of Notre Dame.** (1996) Disney animation, with the voices of Tom Hulce and Demi Moore.
7.05 5 News Weekend.
7.05 Cricket on 5. England v India. Mark Nicholas presents action from day three of the Fifth Test, held at the Oval, as the final match of the series continued.
8.00 World's Scariest Animal Attacks. Terrifying animal encounters, including a 19-year-old who was pulled free by her friends when she was attacked by a great white shark off the coast of Chile. Last in the series. (R)
9.00 Film: Safe. (2012) Premiere. A former cage fighter protects a 12-year-old girl holding valuable information that several criminal factions want. Action thriller, with Jason Statham and Catherine Chan. Part of the In Statham We Trust strand.
10.55 Film: Crank: High Voltage. (2009) A hitman pursues a mobster who took his heart and replaced it with a machine that requires constant charging up. Action thriller sequel, starring Jason Statham and Amy Smart. Part of the In Statham We Trust strand.
12.40 Criminals: Caught on Camera. (R) **1.10 SuperCasino.** **3.10 Soho Nail Bomber: Killing Spree.** **4.00 House Doctor.** (R) **4.25 Make It Big.** (R) **5.20 Angels of Jarm.** (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Film: Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989) **9.00 Our World War 10.00 Family Guy** **10.45 Siblings** **11.15 Cuckoo** **11.45 American Dad!** **12.30 Sexy Beasts** **1.00 Siblings** **1.30 Cuckoo** **2.00 Football Fight Club** **3.00 Impractical Jokers** **3.30 Sexy Beasts** **4.00 Close**
BBC Four
7.00 Proms on Four **8.30 Secret Knowledge: The Art of the Vikings** **9.00 Great Poets in Their Own Words** **10.00 Edinburgh Extra** **11.00 Egypt's Lost Cities** **12.30 Great American Rock Anthems: Turn It Up to 11** **1.30 Forever Young – How Rock 'n' Roll Grew Up** **2.30 Great Guitar Riffs at the BBC** **3.30 Secret Knowledge: The Art of the Vikings**
ITV2
2.05 You've Been Framed! **3.20 Film: Nancy Drew** (2007) **5.20 Film: King Kong** (2005) **9.00 Film: Hot Fuzz** (2007) Action comedy, starring Simon Pegg. **11.20 Film: Batman Returns** (1992) **1.50 The Big Reunion 2014** **2.45 Pixie Lott: The Hot Desk** **2.55 Teleshopping**
ITV3
2.05 Inspector Morse **4.25 Film: Carry On Cowboy** (1966) **6.20 Film: Columbo: The Bye-Bye Sky-High 10 Murder Case** (1977) **8.00 Lewis** **10.00 Film: Chaplin** (1992) **12.55 William and Mary** **1.55 Goodbye Mr Chips** **3.40 Emmerdale**
ITV4
12.05 The Car Chasers **1.05 Silverstone Classic 2014** **2.05 Alias Smith and Jones** **3.10 Film: Destry** (1954) **5.15 Film: Nevada Smith** (1966) **8.00 Ray Mears' Close Encounters** **9.00 Film: Mortal Combat** (1995) **11.00 Hell on Wheels** **11.55 Alias Smith and Jones** **1.00 River Monsters** **2.05 Richard Bacon's Beer and Pizza Club** **2.40 Movies Now** **2.50 ITV4 Nightscreen** **3.00 Teleshopping**
E4
1.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.30 Suburgatory** **2.55 The Mindy Project** **3.25 New Girl** **3.55 The Big Bang Theory** **4.50 The 100** **5.50 Rude(ish) Tube** **6.50 Film: Inkhart** (2008) **9.00 Made in Chelsea NYC** **10.00 Almost Royal** **10.35 Virtually Famous** **11.25 The Big Bang Theory** **12.25 Rules of Engagement** **1.20 The Mindy Project** **2.15 Ben Earl: Trick Artist** **3.05 Bob's Burgers** **3.25 Hollywoods**
Film4
11.00 The Mark of Zorro (1940) **1.00 Hocus Pocus** (1993) **2.55 Ramona and Beezus** (2010) **5.00 Marmaduke** (2010) **6.50 Drilbit Taylor** (2008) **9.00 Season of the Witch** (2011) **10.50 The Wolfman** (2010) **12.50 The Blood on Satan's Claw** (1971) **2.50 Close**

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MONDAY

Imaginary Friend, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman experiences visions of her childhood imaginary friend, whom she created for emotional support while being abused by her father. Fearing she is losing her mind, she takes drastic measures to rid herself of the hallucinations, but begins to suspect they are a warning about a threat to her life posed by her own husband. Thriller, starring Lacey Chabert. (2012)

TUESDAY

Audrey's Rain, Channel 5, 3.15pm

An embittered woman who has given up all her own dreams for the sake of her younger siblings finds herself having to bear even more responsibility when her sister commits suicide and leaves her to raise two children. However, the return of a lost love rekindles her sense of hope. Drama, starring Jean Smart. (2003)



Precious, Friday, BBC2, 11.05pm

WEDNESDAY

Irresistible, BBC1, 11.50pm

Melbourne housewife Sophie becomes increasingly suspicious of her husband's beautiful female colleague Mara. She is convinced the woman is a danger to her marriage and family, but the increasingly nerve-racked Sophie finds no one will believe her. Doubting her own sanity, she takes drastic action and puts her life in peril. Thriller, starring Susan Sarandon. (2006)

THURSDAY

Paycheck, BBC1, 11.35pm

An engineer carries out a top-secret job on the understanding that his knowledge of the task will be erased from his mind afterwards to protect his employer's intellectual property. However, waking after the memory-wiping procedure, he is shocked to learn he had somehow agreed to waive the huge payment due to him – and is wanted for a murder he does not remember committing. Thriller, starring Ben Affleck. (2003)

FRIDAY

Precious, BBC2, 11.05pm

Overweight and illiterate Harlem teenager Precious has endured years of abuse at the hands of her parents. When it is discovered she is pregnant for the second time by her father, Precious is removed from her school and sent to a new institution, where she encounters a kindly teacher who inspires her to try to turn her life around. Drama, starring Gabourey Sidibe. (2009)

PICK OF THE WEEK

Looking back on a match to remember

It hardly seems like two minutes since the last one finished, but last Saturday, the new Premier League season kicked off.

While non-football fans moaned and whined about how the sport tends to take over TV and chats around the watercooler at work, fans were beside themselves with glee – especially as excitement in the domestic leagues this year may help them forget the nightmare that was England's World Cup campaign in Brazil.

But there's another reason to celebrate the return of top-flight football, and that's because it coincides with the 50th anniversary of Match of the Day.

Back in 1964, when the first edition aired, Kenneth Wolstenholme (later to find fame with his "they think it's all over, it is now" moment during the 1966 World Cup final at Wembley) commented on highlights from just one game – a First Division encounter between Liverpool and Arsenal, which the Anfield side won 3-2.

Only 20,000 people tuned in, just

half the number of spectators who were at the ground; that might sound like next to nothing, but at the time, few people could receive new channel BBC Two.

Unlike nowadays when low ratings ensure a show will be axed early, the Beeb stuck with its sporting baby, and before long, it became an iconic show that remains must-see viewing for football fans everywhere.

This special programme looks back at MOTD's history, picking up on memorable moments, from match highlights to the way in which it covered the Hillsborough disaster with great dignity as events unfolded.

Regular viewers such as Alan Sugar, Sue Johnston and Russell Brand discuss their love of the show, and Barry Stoller talks for the first time about composing the famous theme tune.

Also discussing the programme are John Motson, Wayne Rooney, Thierry Henry, Ryan Giggs and the recently retired Alan Hansen.

Over the years, the likes of David Coleman, Jimmy Hill and Des Lynam have hosted the programme; it's

Gary Lineker who sits in the hotseat these days. He has every reason to be cheerful, because his beloved Leicester City are back in the top echelons – although he's anything but optimistic.

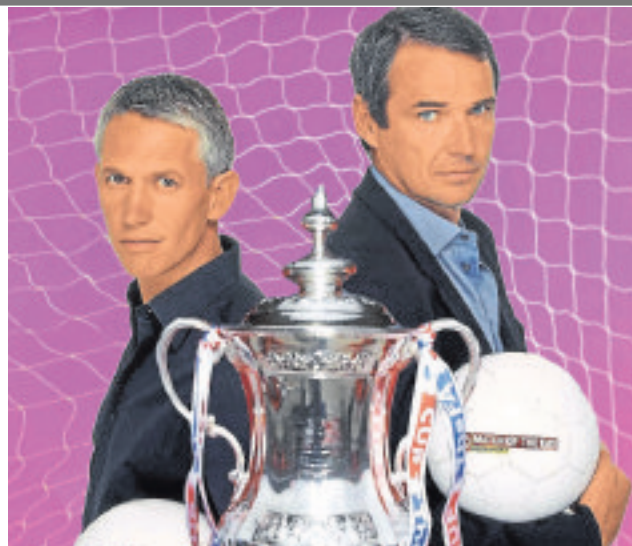
"I'm not the world's most confident fan," he grumbles. "I should be – I should believe in them more than I do."

Does he ever wish he was back out on the pitch?

"Not really. There are aspects of football that can be quite tiresome – being treated like a kid, being shouted at all day, being told what time to do stuff, being told what to eat, etc, etc. The one thing I do miss is scoring a big goal in an important match, and the euphoria that that brings."

Instead, Gary is happy with his day job: "I always look forward to the start of the season. Football is still hugely important to a lot of people in this country and Match of the Day is always an exciting show."

Long may it continue – here's to another 50 years, at least.



Match of the Day at 50, Friday, BBC1, 10.35pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

Long Lost Family, ITV, 9pm

When Colin Deering left home to join the Army, his mother Nellie revealed to him and his younger sister Helen that she had given birth in 1945 and put the baby up for adoption, believing he would have a better chance in life. Shortly before her death, Nellie begged Helen to find her brother and reunite the family, and this programme aims to fulfil that dying wish. Plus, the story of Stephen Haywood, who has put his life on hold until his birth mother can be a part of it. He feels unable to celebrate important occasions without her present, and in recent years his search has become more urgent due to serious health issues. Presented by Davina McCall and Nicky Campbell.

My Online Bride, Channel 4, 10pm

Internet dating is big business these days – once a rarely discussed, taboo topic, the world of online match-ups is now the first place to turn when embarking on a search for a soulmate. In fact, an estimated 15 million Brits are said to be looking for love online, and this one-off documentary follows men of all ages as they head abroad in search of a wife. Among others, we meet 46-year-old Chris who is divorced and looks after his two children,

leaving little time for romance – so he's trying his luck on a Bangkok romance tour. Meanwhile, Mike is 26 and has been searching for a wife in the Ukraine, and after weeks of chatting to Tatyana on Skype, he's arranged to stay with her.

TUESDAY

Super Senses: The Secret Power of Animals, BBC2, 9pm

Biologist Patrick Aryee and physicist Helen Czerski explore the world of animal senses to reveal how they detect things beyond the limits of human perception, conducting experiments and demonstrations featuring a variety of species. They begin by investigating sight and reveal how caribou – wild reindeer of Alaska – use ultraviolet light to avoid their predators. They also discover how the dragonfly's ability to view things in slow motion allows it to make a kill, and show how a snake can see in the pitch dark without using its eyes.

WEDNESDAY

Secrets from the Asylum, ITV, 9pm

The first of two programmes in which celebrities embark on an emotional journey to discover

how their ancestors coped in Victorian asylums. Hollywood hardman Ray Winstone visits Colney Hatch Asylum in north London, where his great-grandmother's first husband was committed in 1875. Comedian Al Murray follows in the footsteps of one of his forebears, Vanity Fair author William Makepeace Thackeray, to

discover the measures he took to save his suicidal wife from the horrors of institutionalisation. Plus, actress and singer Claire Sweeney finds out how senile dementia and old-age mental health was treated in the 19th century.



THURSDAY

Who Do You Think You Are?, BBC1, 9pm

Actress Tamzin Outhwaite, who is currently starring as DCI Sasha Miller in BBC One crime drama New Tricks, but is best known to audiences for her role as Melanie Owen in EastEnders,

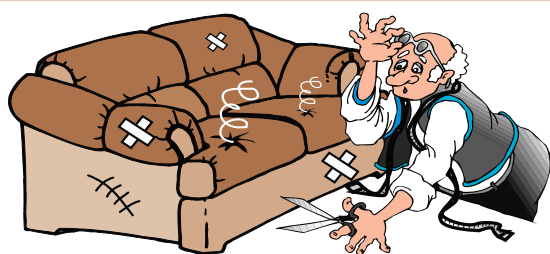
looks to learn about her Italian roots on the maternal side of her family as a result of her fond childhood memories of big meals with relatives, antipasto and energetic conversations. Her journey begins in the heart of London's East End where her great-grandfather Tony Gonella once ran a cafe. She visits the Isle of Man, Italy and finally Glasgow as she explores her ancestor's life, and also discovers more about her mother's father Remo Santi and his dad Adelmo.

The Last Leg, Channel 4, 10pm

Will Daniel Radcliffe ever escape Harry Potter? Maybe not, but he's trying his best to prove he can do things other than play the boy wizard by tackling as many varied roles on stage and screen as time allows him. Now he's making an appearance on this comedy show; those who remember him taking part in QI a few years back will know he's quick-witted, so co-hosts Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker had better be at the top of their game. As ever, they will be taking an irreverent look at the stories that have hit the headlines during the past week while asking the all-important question 'is it OK?' For Radcliffe, in terms of career progression, the answer is yes.

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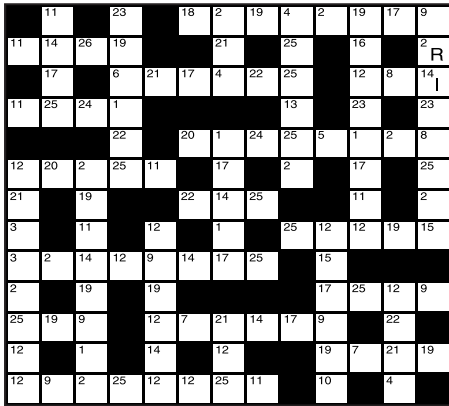
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

F	J	K	X	B	A	G	L	P	I	H	O	D
M	S	Z	N	R	V	C	E	U	Q	W	Y	T

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

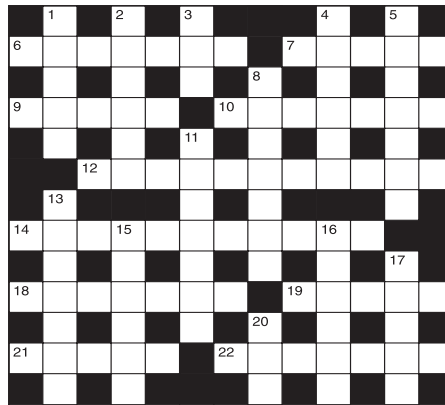
Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. See 11 Down
 7 & 21Ac. He delights in hearing the score (5,5)
 9 & 19Ac. Does this dawn on you in a shattering way? (5,2,3)
 10. See 1 Down
 12. An offer within the law which the creditor can't refuse (5,6)
 14. It was destroyed by a storm at the end of the eighteenth century (3,8)
 18. An artistic effort is proving attractive (7)
 19. See 9 Across
 21. See 7 Across
 22. Ancestry and rank a considerable time afterwards (7)

Down

- 1 & 10Ac. It's kept by the keen-eyed sentry (5,4-3)
 2. Wear away a piece of ribbon, one hears (6)
 3. One spot for the expert (3)
 4. Old boot used for street entertainin' (6)
 5. Certain amount of time for the records (7)
 8. I cannot change what boxes do (7)
 11 & 6Ac. Not accepting responsibility for circulating American currency (7,3,4)
 13. Conveyance number ten in the diagram (7)
 15. Headgear for the woodsman! (6)
 16. Made away with the goods, as the crane operator did (6)
 17. The French cry of disgust produces a sound of merriment (5)
 20. Capital cover that's locked (3)



Quick Clues:

Across

6. Lasting (7)
 7. Extend (5)
 9. Condition (5)
 10. Deny (7)
 12. Strained (5,6)
 14. Actor (5,6)
 15. Guard (7)
 19. Bear (5)
 21. Meal (5)
 22. Gather (7)

Down

1. Allotment (5)
 2. Fix (6)
 3. Cunning (3)
 4. Victor (6)
 5. Fall back (7)
 8. Rower (7)
 11. Esteem (7)
 13. Germ-free (7)
 15. Elicit (3,3)
 16. Empower (6)
 17. Ruse (5)
 20. Rapture (3)

Sudoku

		9	6		1	7
5	7			1	8	2
	6		3			1
		4	9	6	3	5
8			2			9
		5	7	4		3
4	3			9	6	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	8	6	2	7	9	1	5	4
5	1	4	3	6	8	7	9	2
2	9	7	5	4	1	6	3	8
6	7	2	8	3	5	9	4	1
1	4	9	7	2	6	3	8	5
8	3	5	9	4	2	6	7	1
4	2	3	6	5	7	1	8	9
7	5	8	1	9	3	4	2	6
9	6	1	4	8	2	5	7	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Wasted time; 7 Lathe; 8 Related; 10 Striding; 11 Frau; 13 Mobile; 15 Vassal; 17 Turn; 18 Confront; 21 Hearing; 22 Ariel; 23 Undertakes. Down: 1 Water; 2 Steadily; 3 Erring; 4 Tale; 5 Matures; 6 Close match; 9 Double talk; 12 Half-back; 14 Bargain; 16 Sought; 19 Omits; 20 Side. QUICK - Across: 1 Assistance; 7 Tight; 8 Chianti; 10 Narrated; 11 Tier; 13 Indeed; 15 Dures; 17 Each; 18 Tropical; 21 Stamina; 22 Chant; 23 Needlessly. Down: 1 Auger; 2 Situated; 3 Secret; 4 Arid; 5 Concise; 6 Stinginess; 9 Irresolute; 12 Auspices; 14 Declare; 16 Ornate; 19 Crazy; 20 Kind.

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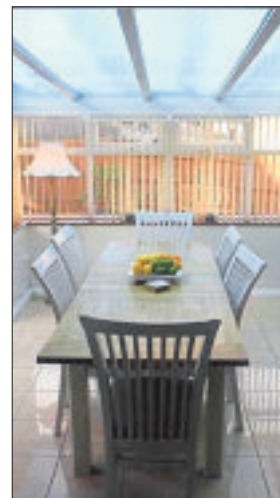
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PROPERTY

Extended residence is of showhome standard



A SHOWHOME standard extended residence in Attingham Drive, Dudley, has an orangery.

It is for sale through Connells at £279,950. It has a kitchen with double electric oven with a gas hob and overhead cooker hood, integrated fridge/freezer and dishwasher. The orangery has spotlights, self-cleaning roof and tiled floor. There is a utility area and a gallery landing. The master bedroom has two fitted wardrobes and an en suite shower room. Bedrooms two and three and four have fitted wardrobes. The bathroom has bath and double shower. Contact Connells on (01384) 214770 or www.connells.co.uk



This traditional detached home has re-fitted kitchen



A TRADITIONAL three-bedroomed detached property with spacious accommodation, including an extended lounge, a re-fitted kitchen and bathroom, in Gervase Drive, Dudley.

It is for sale through Wakeman Estates at £269,950 with no chain.

With double glazing and central heating, it has a porch, entrance hall with staircase off, a front reception/dining room, extended lounge, kitchen, utility room, landing, bedroom one with built in wardrobes, two further bedrooms, a recently re-fitted bathroom plus a separate shower room.

There is a garage, driveway, parking area and garden with patio and lawn. For details contact Wakeman Estates on 01902 885894 or www.wakeman-online.com



Wyre Forest's own picture postcard town

Festooned on the banks of the River Severn and on the edge of the Wyre Forest, Bewdley has been described in past times as "The most perfect small Georgian town in Worcestershire".

It has a remarkable past, being once an important inland port and the hive of a bustling local industry, with many listed buildings, an attractive shopping and riverside area offering a range of pubs, cafés and restaurants.

Thomas Telford built the beautiful stone arched bridge which graces the river Severn and dates back to 1798.

A hidden gem full of character and charm. It is surrounded by The Wyre Forest offering walks through unspoilt woodland.

The heart of Bewdleys town centre 'Load

Street' once operated as the towns market place and this is where the majority of the shops and amenities are situated.

Bewdley enjoys good education facilities and has St Annes C of E Primary school and Bewdley Sixth form centre.

Amongst the fascinating hot spots of Bewdley include a Museum, The QEII Silver Jubilee Gardens, West Midlands Safari and Leisure Park and not forgetting the classic Severn Valley Railway (pictured) - step back in time and enjoy the scintillating 16 mile steam powered journey from Kidderminster to Bridgnorth.

Bewdley also plays host to several events including beer and angling festivals throughout the year, a carnival also takes place. The town proudly hosts one of the largest inland river regattas in the country. A real highlight for the town is the annual Arts Festival that attracts acts with household names from the world of entertainment.



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Stoney Lane Kidderminster DY10 2LU

A spacious three bedroom semi-detached house requiring some refitting. Comprising - Porch, Hall, Cloakroom/w.c., Living Room, Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, Integral Garage, Gas to radiator central heating, Private driveway. Good sized gardens. Energy Rating D

NEW



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£97,500 - £110,000

Churchill Kidderminster DY10 3LX

The rarest opportunity to purchase an end-of-terrace cottage within the village of Churchill. Gardens extending to nearly 0.4 Acre. Living Room, Dining Room, Wing extension with Rear Porch, Kitchen and Shower Room. First Floor - Two double Bedrooms. Attached outbuildings. Detached Garage. Immense potential. Energy Rating TBC

NEW



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£125,000 - £165,000

Offmore Road Kidderminster DY10 1SL

Two/three storey Victorian cottage requiring refitting and refurbishment. Offering great potential. Living Room, Kitchen, Rear Wing Extension with Shower Room, Three Bedrooms, Cellar. Energy Rating TBC

NEW



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£50,000 - £70,000

St Cecilia Close Kidderminster DY10 1LW

A one bedroom apartment located on the seventh floor of this purpose built block offering spacious accommodation. Suited owner/occupation or possible investment property. Hall, Bathroom, Double Bedroom, Living Room, Kitchen. Energy Rating TBC

NEW



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£25,000 - £30,000

Northwood Lane Bewdley DY12 1AH

A detached traditionally built bungalow standing in grounds of nearly half an acre. Private driveway. Carport. Extensive gardens and grounds with outbuildings/garaging. Porch, Hall, Two/three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Living Room, Kitchen, Laundry/Rear/Lower Porch, Cellar, Attic/Loft. Gas to radiator central heating. A fantastic opportunity to buy a property with great potential. Energy Rating TBA

NEW



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£240,000 - £265,000

Lea Street Kidderminster DY10 1SN

A large spacious property comprising shop & flat with immense potential. Shop/Ex-Off-Licence and Brew House comprising shop, rear room, kitchen, stores, w.c., ex-brew house building, cellarage. Flat with one bedroom, living room, kitchenette and shower room. Freehold. Flat Energy Rating F Shop Energy Rating E



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£80,000 - £110,000

Land - Dark Lane Far Forest DY14 9YL

A rarely available parcel of land in the Far Forest area. Suit many current purposes. Approximate frontage of 35m and minimum approx. depth of 50m totalling 1500 sq.m. or thereabouts i.e. just under 0.4 of an acre. Possible long term hope potential for development.

NEW



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
RESERVE - £20,000

Severn Road Stourport DY13 9HB

A second floor one bedroom flat within a block of six in this ultra convenient town centre location with communal car-parking to the front. Lounge, fitted kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, double glazing, leasehold. Ideal buy-to-let investment. Energy Rating E

NEW



AUCTION GUIDE PRICE
£35,000 - £50,000

OPEN VIEWING - WEDNESDAY 27 AUG., 1pm - 3pm

TOWN & COUNTRY

PROPERTY SERVICES

QUARRY PARK ROAD STOURBRIDGE



An impressive seven bedroom detached family home situated in a very desirable location and being close to Hagley village. The accommodation comprises of: Grand reception hall, sitting room, drawing room, dining room, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, utility, cloakroom, rear entrance hall, seven double bedrooms five of which have en suite facilities, family bathroom and a spacious first floor landing/seating area with door out to a balcony. The property further boasts paved parking for numerous vehicles, single garage with up and over garage doors and landscaped lawned gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

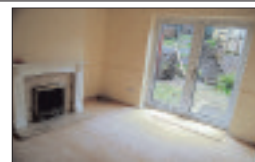
£3995PCM DEPOSIT £4095 + FEES

CASTLE MEWS STOURTON CASTLE



An extremely well presented three bedroom mews style property situated in a popular semi rural location within the grounds of Stourton Castle. Accommodation comprises of dining room, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating and allocated parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£795PCM DEPOSIT £895 + FEES



MAYNARD AVENUE NORTON

A well presented three bedroom and terrace property situated in a popular residential location, accommodation to comprise of: Reception hall, dining room, lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms and bathroom, the property further benefits from gas central heating, majority double glazing and front and rear gardens. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO PETS: NO CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: NO

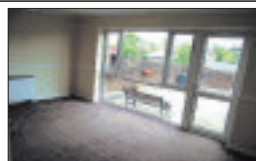
£650 PCM DEPOSIT £750 + FEES



WATERWAYS DRIVE OLDBURY

An extremely well presented two bedroom semi detached property situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of Lounge, kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating and double glazing and enclosed rear garden and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£550PCM DEPOSIT £650 + FEES



HIGH STREET HARBORNE

A spacious two bedroom first floor maisonette with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts electric storage heating, roof terrace and off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£525PCM DEPOSIT £625 + FEES



ALLSOP CLOSE ROWLEY REGIS

A very well presented two bedroom starter home in a popular residential location. Accommodation comprises: Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. The property further benefits from having gas central heating, fore garden laid to lawn and enclosed rear garden with patio area. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£495PCM DEPOSIT £595 + FEES



HIGH STREET WORDSLEY

A delightful two bedroom period property situated in a prominent location with accommodation comprising of: Lounge, breakfast kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, decked rear garden and gravelled driveway affording off road parking. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO CHILDREN: YES

£495PCM DEPOSIT £595 + FEES



BRIARS CLOSE BRIERLEY HILL

Well presented Modern two bedroom Mid Terrace property with accommodation to comprise of: Entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. The property further boasts off road parking and enclosed rear garden. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = E DSS: NO CHILDREN: YES PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£495PCM DEPOSIT £595 + FEES



CHURCH ROAD LYE

A well presented two bedroom mid terrace property in a popular residential location, accommodation comprises of Lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and two bedrooms. The property further benefits from gas central heating, double glazing and rear yard. The property does not have parking.

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = F DSS: YES PETS: CATS ONLY CHILDREN: YES SMOKERS: NO
£450PCM DEPOSIT £550 + FEES



FOXDALE DRIVE BRIERLEY HILL

A well presented and recently refurbished one bedroom semi detached house situated in a popular residential location with accommodation to comprise of: Lounge, fitted kitchen, first floor landing with built in airing cupboard, bedroom and bathroom. The property further benefits from having lawned fore garden, bin store, allocated parking, gas central heating and double glazing. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

£395 PCM £495 DEPOSIT + FEES



THE GREEN WORDSLEY

Rooms available from £80 to £115 per week situated in a popular residential location and being close to all local amenities. All inclusive rent includes gas, electricity, water bills and council tax. there is a fully equipped shared kitchen with dishwasher and washer/dryer, shower room on first floor and bathroom with shower on second floor. Also benefiting from wireless broadband and free view TV point. FURNISHED TO A HIGH STANDARD EPC RATING = C DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO

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LOWER HIGH STREET STOURBRIDGE

A well presented one bedroom second floor apartment situated in the heart of Stourbridge Town Centre with accommodation to comprise of: External staircase at the rear of the property to the second floor, entrance hall, lounge/kitchen, bedroom and en-suite shower room. The property further benefits from having Gas Central Heating and Double Glazing.

UNFURNISHED EPC RATING = D DSS: NO CHILDREN: NO PETS: NO SMOKERS: NO
£375PCM- DEPOSIT £475 + FEES

Car that ticks all the boxes

By Graham Breeze

There's not a lot wrong to report about the new Skoda Octavia Estate – in fact I would go as far as to say it's the best car I have driven this year.

And that's no idle claim with close on 40 vehicles tested so far.

On test was the 2.0TDi Elegance, offering exceptional versatility, a massive boot, spacious interior and any amount of practical touches.

Based on the same platform as the new Golf Estate the Skoda uses the same engines and when it goes head-to-head with its main opposition the Ford Focus Estate and Vauxhall Astra Sports Tourer it definitely comes out on top.

You can pick from three trim levels, but even entry-level S models come well-equipped.

While the Elegance version on test gets satellite-navigation, dual-zone climate control and leather upholstery.

Octavia Estate is exactly the same length as the hatch at 4,659mm, but styling means the long rear overhang looks great and the only other difference between hatch and estate is the addition of roof rails.

Inside the cabin a variety of soft-touch materials and a standard touch-screen infotainment system offer a classy feel.

You'll go a long way to find a car that makes you feel as comfortable or as quickly at home behind the wheel.

There's a Driver Profile system, which adjusts engine and steering response according to which mode you've selected (Eco, Normal, Sport or Individual).

This Skoda is surprisingly and notably composed and gives the driver plenty of confidence at speed or on winding country roads thanks to well weighted steering, good grip and impressive brakes.

Some might find the drive a little firm around town but there is no doubt about the credentials once you're on the open road.

With the rear seats up, the boot is vast and offers a huge 610 litres of luggage space.

Enormous

Folding the rear seats creates an enormous load bay.

There's plenty of room for five on board and even six footers commented on how much head room there was in the back. Rear vision was also surprisingly good.

The six-speed manual gearbox is smooth and helps you achieve an average of 67.3mpg on the combined cycle while emitting only 110g/km of emissions.

The car is no slouch either, meaning you need to keep an eye on the speedometer with 0-62mph in 8.6seconds and a top speed of 134mph.

It's a good looking car too, sitting on 17" alloys, which come complete with anti-theft bolts.

If value for money is what you are looking for consider what you get for the £23,115 price tag.

The touch screen infotainment system is standard on the Elegance as are Bluetooth, DAB radio, a driver fatigue sensor, climate control, hill hold control, a stop-start engine system, leather upholstery, electric door mirrors, rain sensor, cruise control and an intelligent high beam system.



'It's the best car I have driven this year'

Metallic paint, an upgraded satellite navigation system, a temporary space spare wheel and a parking assist system pushed the price of the test car up to £25,015.

Safety is high on Skoda's agenda too

with seven airbags and a fatigue sensor which quickly alerts drowsy drivers.

This is no run-of-the-mill Skoda. The Octavia Estate is up there with the best in sector.

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Great mix of economy, style and performance

By John Griffiths

There's something going on under the bonnet of a new range of Audis which benefits both the environment and drivers – particularly business users.

The company's huge range of models has been joined by 'Ultra' versions of the A4, A5 and A6, using an update of its 2.0-litre turbo diesel engine, already one of the most powerful in its class with up to 190Ps on tap in the case of the A6.

The net result is a saving of hundreds of pounds on fuel, the tax disc and 'benefit in kind' tax without sacrificing performance: indeed, the new Ultra range actually has more oomph than its predecessors.

I drove the Ultra-powered version of the £30,850 A5 Coupe, a sleek executive express with the potential to go from a standstill to 62mph in a rapid 8.3 seconds.

Yet it is also capable of beating many small hatchbacks in terms of economy, with average fuel consumption of more than 67mpg and a CO2 emissions rating of just 109g/km.

This means, compared to its predecessor, the tax band falls from C to B and a 16 per cent drop in the business driver's tax bill – nearly £250 as well as savings at the pumps. The figures are identical for the new Ultra-powered range of A4 saloons.

Saving money and developing your green credentials normally means a trade-off with performance and driving pleasure, but in this case the opposite is true.

The 2.0-litre turbo diesel under the bonnet is a completely new development, designed for even more efficiency and leaner burning. It also has a new 'selective catalytic reduction' system which removes nitrogen oxides from the exhaust gases, ensuring the cars meet EU6 standards, the most stringent ever applied to European cars.

Same

But the driver also has the same maximum engine power of 163Ps under his right foot but at lower revs (1,200rpm lower, at 3,000rpm in fact), and maximum torque is increased to 400Nm and over a wider spread, from just 1,750rpm.

If the figures don't mean much, you will notice the difference long before you pull up at the pumps.

It means in normal driving the car whispers along at very low rpm, saving fuel and reducing noise levels, but a little more pressure from the right foot will send it surging forward smoothly without the need to stir the six-speed manual gearbox.

All the Ultra models come as standard with lowered, sports suspension which not only reduces drag (therefore aiding economy), it also means even sharper handling. The standard alloys are reduced to 17in as a result, equipped with 225/50 low-profile tyres.

It turns into bends positively and accurately and grips well, and based on a test drive on a variety of rural roads, it has little impact on ride quality.

The Ultra models currently come as manual, front-wheel drive only, with no four-wheel drive Quattro versions.

The A5 is only available at present in SE trim, which comes with the sort of kit you'd expect from an upmarket coupe. Driver and front passenger have executive levels of space, but the sleek coupe shape does mean a small sacrifice in room for those in the rear compared to the A4 saloon.

Boot space is well up to class standards, ranging from 455 to 829 litres depending on whether the rear bench seat is up or folded flat.

Driver and passengers can sit back in heated Milano leather upholstery, with the benefit of electronic climate control and an upmarket sound system with multi-media interface.

You also get automatic wipers and lights, parking sensors, satnav, multi-function steering wheel, electric front windows, and cruise control. Safety equipment includes multiple airbags as well as a limited slip differential and the usual array of electronic wizardry, such as ABS and stability control.

TESTED

Audi A5 Coupe Ultra

Engine: Four cylinder 1,998cc turbo diesel with 163Ps of power and 400Nm of torque driving the front wheels via a six-speed manual gearbox.

Performance: 0 to 62mph in 8.3secs: max 139mph.

Economy: urban 56.6mpg, country 74.3mpg, average 67.3mpg. CO2 emissions 109g/km (tax band B).

Insurance: Group 28E

Warranty: Three years/60,000 miles.

Price: £30,825.

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<p>12/12 ASTRA 1.4i 16V ACTIVE 5-dr, 18,707 miles</p> <p>NOW £9395</p>	<p>13/13 MOKKA 1.7 CDTi EXCLUSIV 5-dr, 9,806 miles</p> <p>NOW £15295</p>	<p>11/11 ASTRA 1.4i 16V EXCLUSIV 5-dr, 29,875 miles</p> <p>NOW £7495</p>	<p>11/61 ASTRA EXCITE CDTi 5-dr, 31,024 miles</p> <p>NOW £9495</p>	<p>12/12 CORSA 1.2 ACTIVE (AC) 5-dr, 13,216 miles</p> <p>NOW £7695</p>

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Cash price	£14,650.00	35 monthly payments	£199.00
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LIFETIME
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Cactus is a vehicle that's perfect for today's living

By Ian Donaldson

Ever picked up a car park bump and cursed your luck? The brilliant new Citroen C4 Cactus might just be the car for you

As breaths of fresh air go, the Cactus is like a lung-full of West Scotland's finest in the middle of rush-hour London.

It's a car designed to fit into real-world lifestyles where you need lots of places to store bits and pieces, where touch-screens are as second nature as a second scoop of ice cream and where people always manage to open their doors into your paintwork. The Cactus is built to take life's little trials in its stride with a radical re-think.

That's why you'll find those curious and distinctive coloured panels along the sides. These 'AirBump' air-filled blocks are scratch-resistant and a bit bouncy, so errant supermarket trolleys and swinging coat zips won't leave a mark. The same material is on the boot and in a few other places too, helping to avoid any ugly and expensive body-work damage.

The Cactus is the first truly honest Citroen for years. It's a bit madcap but not so much so to be off-putting. The controls are where you'd expect them, the pedals do what they should and the wheels aren't made out of cheese. It's simply very good at the everyday biffabout thing, and there's no doubt a lot of people will be very taken by this.

Character

You don't get as much outright space as you do in, say, a Seat Toledo, but the Cactus has a far greater character garnish to go with its healthy dollop of practicality. There are door pockets aplenty and a panoramic glass roof to give a more spacious-feeling cabin, and it's fair to say there's enough rear legroom for adults – just.

A really nice touch is the 'suitcase-style' interior detailing on the door pulls and glove box. It adds a sense of travel adventure, but there's loads of room inside the glove-case to add substance to the style.

Citroen openly admits the Cactus is built to a price. That's half the point; realistic ownership costs. With that in mind it's amazing how quietly the 1.2-litre 110-horsepower petrol version bimbles around town. At 30mph in the fourth of five gears, the loudest thing is the air conditioning fan, which itself is only lightly breathing away in the background.

There's nothing remarkable about the way it drives. The soft, chunky seats are unusual these days and very comfortable, the steering is quite slow and unthreatening, and the ride is very smooth over good surfaces and undulating bumps.

Loyal

It's worse over sharp bumps, mind you, where the suspension crashes unexpectedly and noisily, but on the whole the driving experience is that of a car you'd never regret buying or dislike owning. It feels a bit like a loyal family pet.

In terms of raw space there's more for your money out there. But 'value' cars tend to be a bit soulless and that always counts against them. The Cactus definitely has more of a character and a charm that can't entirely be priced up. In terms of providing family-friendly transport that you're not afraid to see bumped around now and again, what could be better?

There could be clever finance deals on the cards, too, if the UK follows suit with Spain's 'pay as you drive' mileage-based finance scheme.

The brilliant news is that this won't just appeal to budget-led buyers who hate looking after their cars. It's a damn fine everyday car with some great quirks and an unusual look, so parents looking for something livelier-looking to put on the drive will love it; as will people bored with the same old hatchback crowd.

This car summed up in a single word: Unconventional. Among a sea of relative boredom it dares to be different, and while it'll raise a few eyebrows, it turns heads and creates big smiles.

TESTED

Citroen C4 Cactus 1.2 PureTech 110, circa £16,000.

Engine: 1.2-litre turbocharged petrol unit producing 108bhp and 151lb/ft of torque

Transmission: Five-speed manual driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 117mph, 0-62mph in 9.3 seconds

Economy: 61.4mpg combined

Emissions: From 105g/km of CO2



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Advice from the experts

Volvo dealership Brindley Stourbridge, located on Grange Lane, is helping its local customers negotiate the car-buying process with advice on choosing the right fuel for their driving needs.

A common misconception by drivers is that diesel cars are always the most economical choice thanks to greater fuel efficiency. However, the development of much more efficient petrol engines, together with cheap

er prices at the pump, mean that low-mileage motorists may in fact be better off choosing a petrol model.

Customers visiting Brindley Volvo will be able to take advantage of the expert knowledge when it comes to finding the right model for their driving needs – the foremost question being how the driver intends to use their car.

For example, take Volvo's V40 T2 ES entry level model, priced from £18,995. Customers may be surprised to learn that this modern petrol engine can return up to 53.3mpg on the combined fuel economy cycle –

figures more closely associated with diesel engine performance only a few years ago.

With these figures in mind, drivers need to be aware of what their annual mileage is, as anything less than 12,000 miles a year over a four-year period will likely mean a petrol engine model has lower running costs.

Brindley Volvo welcomes customers to simply come in and have a chat at the dealership, which can recommend the right engine and fuel type that best matches a customer's lifestyle and, ultimately, driving needs.

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SECURE LOCKS Lock replacement doors/windows BS3621 insurance approved Closers/Fire doors, panic bars 07840467642 / 0793888970

plastering

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MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238999 / 07560 465443

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No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR. Est 2009, 01384 232635.

woodburners and stoves

WOODBURNING / MULTIFUEL Stoves, Flues, installation. Free surveys. Stourbridge 01384 390183. severnvalleystoves.com

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
All neutered, inoculated and chipped.
Call Greyhound Trust
01922 412212 or
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk

ADORABLE Springer Spaniel Puppies, black and white and liver and white, dogs and bitches, home reared with children. Mum can be seen. Ready now. £290.
Telephone 01299 269136

AMERICAN BULLDOG Puppies, chunky parents, can be seen, brindle, £350 each, 07583 529722.

AVIARY PANELS, 2ft x 3ft, 10. £19.50 each. 2 with doors, £25 each. 01384 350795 or 07904 938

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

BABY FERRETS for sale, hobs and Gills: £10.
01384 863608. 07909 564590.

PEDIGREE BRITISH SHORT Haired Tom cat. Grey, chipped. £50. o.n.o. Call 01902 847874.

SHITZU male, 13 weeks old, all injections, chipped, vet checked. £350. 07503 672411.

KIND HOMES WANTED
MEG 6yr old small cute Jack Russell
GILLY Medium size gentle tanned lurcher
KATO 9yr Jack Russell Boy
BUDDY 18 month old black Labrador
LOTTIE 5yr black staffie, happy chunky girl
RIO 18mth old boxer X Male
KIKI 1yr old short haired Border collie, Friendly, lovable.
RUSTY 4yr old cross breed, gentle big hearted obedient boy
BRUNO 4yr old cross breed boy, black/tan, see him on facebook

01588 676106
www.dogsamaritans.org.uk

STAFFIE CROSS, 1 year old bitch, spayed and microchipped, free to good home.
Telephone 07983 329053.

STUNNING BLACK Labrador pups. Home bred, wormed, weaned & Ready to go. Details: 01384 270503

YELLOW LABRADOR PUPPIES 5 yellow dogs, 10 weeks old, outstanding pedigree, KC reg, fully vaccinated, wormed, ready now. £575. 01746 862198.

YORKSHIRE TERRIER pup, pedigree dog, 12wks old, good with children. £275. 01543 378456.

5
Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

business directory

accountants

6
Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

BRIERLEY HILL
Nice one bedroom flats to let. DG, CH, shower, new fitted kitchen, £90pw includes council tax. No DSS.
Please call 07803 890908.

GRANGE ROAD Dudley, lovely 1-bed flats, parking, GCH, close to Russells Hall and Town Centre, from £345pcm. 07966 494138.

NETHERTON AREA two bed house, DHSS welcome, deposit required. Call 07780 704435.

ROOMS TO LET in shared house, near Cradley Heath Station. £60/£70pw all inc. 07837 653830.

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

properties wanted

LOCAL INVESTOR can pay 10% more than all these guys. Call Alex 07729 237901

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- A fair offer from people you can trust.**
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Guaranteed offer*
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Site fees paid for 2014.
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0121 557 2333 or 07971 661575.

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£62,500 ono
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All amenities on site.
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Superb chalet bungalow. Fully
residential, 3 beds. Fully double
glazed and central heating.
Lovely gardens, all round with a
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£85,000 ono.

01938 811194.

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(Bentley area)

No chain.
Ready to move into.
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07891 664734.
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7
Jobs

courses

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01902 744726 / 07831 646601

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Estate, Lye, Stourbridge, DY9
8HQ. Email: jones@
processflow.co.uk

8
Motoring

cars over £1500

CITROEN C4 VTS, 06 reg, 2.0,
petrol, 3dr, MoT, tax, 78,000 miles,
FSH, mint condition, £2,495 ono.
07955 587600.

FIAT BRAVO 1.4 Active, 57 reg.,
113k miles, taxed, MoT, good con-
dition all round, £2,450 ono. 07455
903660. 07910 625250.



FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC

2011, 10,960 miles, silver,
electric windows, air bag, air con,
fish, alarm, long MoT, metallic
paint, central locking,
one owner, 1.8 Zetec.

£7,895 ono.

07544 941903.

FORD FOCUS TITANIUM
Hatchback, 2.0 diesel, 2010 (10
Reg), 20,000 miles, metallic
black, one owner, 6 months tax
and MoT.
£8,750.
07708 095983.

HONDA CIVIC 1.8SE
5dr, bluish silver, 2006, 117k
miles, FSH and MoT, full leather
seats, excellent condition, very
reliable.
£12,200.
01746 769646.



**HONDA CIVIC
2.2 CDI ES DIESEL**
2007, 07, five door,
124k miles, fish,
MoT August 2015,
very good condition,
£3,500 ono.
07914 084189.

JAGUAR S TYPE 3.0 V6, 03 reg,
taxed till Jan 2016, MoT till March
2015, FSH, 8 speed automatic,
£2,500. 07949 776824.

MERCEDES BENZ B180 SE, 55
reg, diesel, 5dr, metallic silver, 6
speed 90k, manual, FSH, tax /
MoT'd, £4,400 ono. 07970 411864.

**MERCEDES C180 KOMP
CLASSIC SE AUTO**
04/54, 54k, fish, silver, MoT/tax,
very good condition,
£4,350.
01902 755633.

MG MIDGET 1977, BRRG, 45k from
full repair, lead free conversion,
Genuine history, Genuine reason
for sale, £1,750, ono. 01902 894225.

MGTF 2002 1.8 Stepped
Automatic, silver, 36,000 miles,
taxed and MoT'd, £1,650 ono.
07939 18161 / 01562 585792.

PEUGEOT 207, 2006, 35,000 miles,
silver, air con, alarm, MoT, central
locking, tax, panoramic roof,
£2,900. 01902 671737.

PEUGEOT 407 1.9 HDI, 04, 136,216
miles, silver, MoT April 2015, Tax
March 2015, alloys, EV9 stereo,
CD, £1,450 ono. 07941 112657.

RENAULT CLIO 1.4, Dynamique S,
2007, black, top of the range, taxed
and MoT'd, well maintained,
£2,900. 01902 417920.

RENAULT MEGANE SL OASIS
1500CC 05 plate, 12 months MoT,
£30 tax, 83,000 miles, £2,195 ono.
07939 130064 / 07967 550675.

SEAT IBIZA, 2006, 45,000 miles, 12
months MoT, tax end Sept, black,
cl, good runner, £2,995. 07793
0351 967444.

SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 05 reg,
2.0 diesel, tax, MoT, 45,000 miles,
good condition, £3,250 ono.
07939 130064 / 07967 550675.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI, 2009,
20,000 miles, black, tax Feb 2015,
MoT Oct 2014, alloys, tidy car,
£5,200 ono. 07974 758904.

SUZUKI JIMNY

59 reg, black/silver, taxed /
MoT, 11,000 miles, excellent,
as new condition, lady owner.
Reluctant sale,
£7,500.
01543 675063 / 07939
161436.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2
3Dr, Energy, 2010, metallic
blue, 21k miles, one lady owner,
MoT March 2015, excellent
condition.
£4,950.
01902 333986 / 07753 381034.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI
2007, MK3, 35,000 miles,
black, fish, full MoT, 6 months
tax, genuine reason for sale.
Great first car. Must see.
£3,000.
01902 689940.

VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN
2.0 TDI, 2007, metallic black,
auto, fish, full MoT/tax, 7 seater,
64,000mils, sat-nav, multi
changer DVD/CD, one owner
from new, Showroom condition.
£2,200 ono.
07904 783221.

cars under £1500

**ADVERTISERS ARE
REMINDER**
that the Business Advertisements
(Disclosure) Order of
1977 requires that advertise-
ments must clearly
differentiate between Private
and Trade.

AUDI A6 TDI Sport, Diesel, 2002,
136,000 miles, new cambelt/water
pump, February, tax/MoT, silver,
£1,300 ono. 01384 270574.

BMW 318, X reg., two door, 12
months MoT, blue, £600 ono. Local
call. 07971 507523.

CITROEN C3
2003, 63,000 miles, gold, abs,
electric windows, air bag, MoT,
metallic paint, central locking,
pas, tax, stereo, CD.
£1,000 ono.
01902 269145.

CITROEN PICASSO 2.0 HDI, 01, 11
months MoT, 5 months tax, new
cam belt, electric SR, £550 ono.
07548 511612 or 01902 847277.

CITROEN PICASSO EXCLUSIVE
2.0 HDI, 2002, 135,000 miles,
silver, tax and MoT, very good con-
dition, 2895 ono. 01384 869696.

CITY ROVER SOLO 04, full MoT,
tax, 7500 miles, excellent condi-
tion, £800 ono.
07980 832319.

FIAT PUNTO CABRIO 1.2 16V
CONVERTIBLE 1999, black, full
electrics, PS, MoT Jan, good condi-
tion £750 ono. 07788 287476.

FIAT PUNTO DYNAMIC, 2005,
turquoise, 11 months MoT, 3
months tax, good condition, £995.
07814 203810.

FIAT PUNTO SPORTING 1.2, 55
reg, 12 months MoT, one month
tax, 74,000 miles, £995 ono.
07967 220306.

FORD FIESTA 1.3 Mk5, 51 reg, 12
months MoT, clean car, £525 ono.
07903 226347.

FORD FIESTA 1.4 Zetec, petrol, 07
reg, 12 months MoT, low mileage,
excellent condition, £1,995.
Summer use only.
07932 963381.

FORD FIESTA, Y reg, 1.2, 5 door,
full MoT, tax, e/w, low mileage,
good condition, CD player, £95.
Telephone 07405 946630.

FORD FOCUS CL, 2002, 116,000
miles, service history, MoT till May,
good clean condition, £950 ono.
07903 517024.

FORD FOCUS Ghia, 1998cc, 4dr
saloon, 2001 reg, 117,000 miles,
tax and MoT, leather interior, £850
ono. 07915 615870.

FORD FOCUS 1.9 HDI, 04, 136,216
miles, silver, MoT April 2015, Tax
March 2015, alloys, EV9 stereo,
CD, £1,450 ono. 07941 112657.

RENAULT CLIO 1.4, Dynamique S,
2007, black, top of the range, taxed
and MoT'd, well maintained,
£2,900. 01902 417920.

RENAULT MEGANE SL OASIS
1500CC 05 plate, 12 months MoT,
£30 tax, 83,000 miles, £2,195 ono.
07939 130064 / 07967 550675.

SEAT IBIZA, 2006, 45,000 miles, 12
months MoT, tax end Sept, black,
cl, good runner, £2,995. 07793
0351 967444.

SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 05 reg,
2.0 diesel, tax, MoT, 45,000 miles,
good condition, £3,250 ono.
07939 130064 / 07967 550675.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI, 2009,
20,000 miles, black, tax Feb 2015,
MoT Oct 2014, alloys, tidy car,
£5,200 ono. 07974 758904.

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20,000 miles, black, tax Feb 2015,
MoT Oct 2014, alloys, tidy car,
£5,200 ono. 07974 758904.

RENAULT LAGUNA, hatchback,
2000, 53,000 miles, blue, petrol,
long MoT, sunroof, 9 months tax.
£750. 01902 663531.

RENAULT CLIO, 2003, 96,000
miles, silver, electric windows,
sunroof, stereo, 1 months MoT and
tax, £850 ono. 07927 920123.

RENAULT SCENIC 05, 1.5 diesel,
full MoT, 6 months tax, all previous
MoT's, showroom condition, first to
see will buy, £1495. 07913 203682.

RENAULT SCENIC 1.4, 16v, Fijdi
model, 52 reg, full MoT, 1 months
tax, 70,000 miles, £375 ono. 07933
918920 or 0121 5303219.

ROVER STREETWISE, 2004,
76,000 miles, grey, long MoT, no
tax, excellent condition, £1,095
ono. 07732 268946.

TOYOTA ESTIMA, 1995, 92,300
miles, red, electric windows, air
con, long MoT, tax, CD, 8 seats.
£600 ono. 07954 374222.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 Club, 54
reg, 5dr, auto, new shape, good
condition, £4k, taxed, MoT'd,
£1,350 ono. 07711 887814.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0, 51 plate,
5 door, new shape, full MoT, alloys,
very reliable, new battery, service,
oil, £725 ono. 07956 517774.

VAUXHALL TIGRA, X reg, 46,000
miles, metallic Kiwi, sunroof, air
con, alloys, service history, 11
months MoT, 6 months tax, £1,000.
01902 657665.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA Diesel, 7
seater, 2002, blue, very good con-
dition, MoT June 2015, taxed end
Dec, 1999 ono. 01384 352489.

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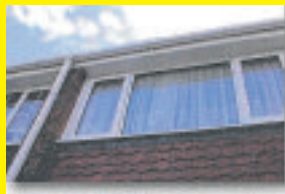
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Women seeking men

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YOUNG looking 43 yr old single brunette female, Staffordshire, likes animals, the countryside, meals out and cosy nights in Wltn single male 30-40 for friendship maybe more and to help mend my broken heart. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4457647**

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active, WLTN N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413441**

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. **ACA. Tel No: 0905 002 1961 Box 405297**

SUSIE discreet married lady, young 36yrs seeks uncommitted texts with man any age or area, all texts answered. **Text only Box No: 4459437**

SOPHIA very sensual black lady looking to acquire a new distraction with lots of adult fun thrown in for good measure. Race/age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413399**

EMMA petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413207**

ANNA, busy mature lady seeks no strings discreet meetings with male any age or location. **Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box 366019**

FELICITY professional female, 32yrs, blonde, curvy, fun. Travels a lot and wim chap for occasional fun on my travels. **Text only Box: 4459438**

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship with, call me to hear more. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013**

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for poss tr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413005**

CHRISTINA, curvy beauty, 27yrs, own home, very very adventurous seeks no strings fun and frolics. Can accommodate and will answer all calls. **Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box 410127**

ROSA 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. Age/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413227**

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if I like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412987**

ZOE, 25yrs, very naughty seeks man any age for broad minded no strings fun and games. **Tel No: 0905 002 1933 Box 409719**

JAN 58fins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, WLTN someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412931**

ANN slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together. **hopefully tr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412911**

LUCY beautiful busty bubbly blonde 32yrs, seeking naughty bloke to enjoy the fun of life with, age, status and looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411691**

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LINDA single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, WLTN similar young at heart companion to be close with, enjoy chats and romantic dates. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410119**

WIDOW 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere, N/S male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411745**

JEAN young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, gardening, outings, WLTN sincere, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411711**

TINA sexy black female looking for healthy distractions with fun adult companion, interested? You won't be disappointed, give me a call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411519**

LYNNE young looking attractive Indian female with GSOH and down to earth attitude, looking for likeminded male for date nights, hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411219**

EMMIE 50, attractive brunette, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music, reading, seeks genuine, friendly, professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411281**

RETIRED happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 411459**

RITA naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember! **0906 500 3955 Box No: 410959**

SUE 34, likes most things in life, even football! Looking for my Mr Wonderful thought I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to loose, call me. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 410765**

CAROL slim attractive blonde, sporty easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va va voom. **35-45. 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409717**

SUE 38, attractive broadminded attentive enjoys meals in/out etc, not necessarily looking for Mr Right as Mr Wrong or even Mr Right now could be fun! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410498**

ZOE 25 long haired sensual female, very naughty, broadminded and open, looking for similar fun guy for uncomplicated adult meals. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409719**

JANE attractive, feminine open-minded mature female genuinely looking for adult fun. No time wasters please. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409715**

JILL 50, attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410105**

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOH to enjoy the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409895**

ELAINE attractive 39yr old blonde single mum seeking respectful male/dad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410117**

DONNA 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409733**

MARGARET OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things WLTN caring male with similar refined tastes. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407925**

ATTRACTIVE 49yr old divorced lady, looking for honest, reliable man for LTR, 49-60. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409955**

ABBA girl blonde lookalike, size 16, attractive, bubbly, OHAC, seeking solvent, effined, handsome guy with a full head of hair. 5ft 9ins plus, professional and courteous. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409151**

29YR old black beautiful busty tall loving very sensual lady, likes football, making friends, seeking genuine white male for enjoyable loving relationship. Pls no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410577**

YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410847**

CAROL 38 attractive romantic not looking for fairy tales just happy endings, seeking lovely male to put the sparkle back into my life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410721**

CLAIRE voluptuous tall feminine attractive lady who loves good company, fine wine/food, travel, WLTN tall professional for romance dates and hopeful tr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410627**

MICHELLE 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you could be him and have nothing to loose call me for a chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410415**

TAYLOR 21 black beautiful classy intelligent, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409911**

WENDY 50, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meals out, seeks white male, 45-55 with similar interests and GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410499**

73YR old Hereford lady, GSOH, young at heart, many interests, seeks caring, genuine gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410331**

NICKY bubbly curvy fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, seeking N/S male with GSOH for possible tr. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410479**

KAREN 32 a hardworking petite blonde, enjoys nights out, music, etc, WLTN for more than just friendship with similar chilled, kind, easy going guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410461**

LIZ 5ft 7ins, attractive, outgoing, likes walks, dogs, cooking, seeks male for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410395**

KIM attractive single lady new to area looking for meet new friends and maybe a new love interest. I have many hobbies and am interesting to know, pls call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408489**

BETHANY 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 with great personality, looking for nice guy to share my life with, single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408253**

KIRSTY blonde blue eyed size 12 nurse, enjoys cosy nights, driving, holidays, socialising, WLTN broadminded male for adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409259**

KATH blonde independent female, employed with OHAC looking for fun and laughter with likeminded nice easy going male, any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407955**

NEETA Black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs, loves to enjoy life, have lots of fun and be spoilt, give me a call. Any age, looks and status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409101**

Hi I'm Jo, first time, newly divorced perfect size 10, blonde, attractive, tactile and looking to fall in love again. Age unimportant, dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409089**

SUSIE 32yr old nurse who likes cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine and spending quality times with great company, if you feel the same pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408877**

BABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat out, looking for nice n/s male to spend quality adult time with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407943**



BUBBY 60 plus lady, slim, fair hair, comfy in jeans and leather jacket, seeks similar male for friendship etc. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408859**

JOANNA 34, in need of tic, winning, dining being treated like the princess I am, looking for sugar daddy, that someone special to love me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408869**

MARIA gorgeous outgoing bbw 27, good fun, caring, romantic, looking for that special someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408793**

TAYLOR attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with open-minded male who is also looking for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408311**

BETHANY 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 with great personality, looking for nice guy to share my life with, single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408253**

KIRSTY blonde blue eyed size 12 nurse, enjoys cosy nights, driving, holidays, socialising, WLTN broadminded male for adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409259**

KATH blonde independent female, employed with OHAC looking for fun and laughter with likeminded nice easy going male, any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407955**

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Men seeking women

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LONELY male, disabled, would like to meet male or female for company. Likes animals, visiting historical places, karaoke. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4172884**

FUN loving easy going guy, 30, tall dark and handsome, looking for an older woman who likes good times and fun. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4453744**

ADVENTUROUS 32yr old slim, dark haired, creative, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks likeminded female to share fun times with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753**

BLACK guy 68, feels 45, looks 40, seeks female, 58-71, GSOH, genuine, caring for fun times and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413375**

TALL Indian gent, 53, seeks sensual lady for friendship plus interesting chap, discreet days in and nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413315**

JOHN 70, tall, slim, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413183**

GENT widower, late 60's, looks younger, GSOH, likes music, good food, country pursuits, seeks female, 50-60 for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413173**

TONY young looking 50's male, 5ft 8ins, many interests, easy going, seeks slim rock chick or similar for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413275**

6FT 1ins slim, dark hair, likes walking, animals, seeking medium build female, 60-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413193**

JEFF young 62, N/S, tall, fit, energetic, seeking new female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413053**

JOHN 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, various interests, seeks female for friendship/relationship. **35-52. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413107**

RETIRED male, seeking no strings adult fun and frolics, discretion assured, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413067**

TONY young looking 50, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks slim rock chick, trendy for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413049**

KEVIN 53, looking for a friend/partner and a lover. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412869**

NORTH Shropshire male, 67, N/S, solvent, GSOH, likes walks, travel, music, holidays, countryside, seeks N/S lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412867**

MAURICE gentleman, 59, gentle, kind, caring, loving, generous, seeks lady with GSOH and similar personality, slim-medium build. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412859**

MALE seeking female companion for outings, friendship and holidays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412705**

STEPHEN 58, good looking, likes art, travel, seeking female, 50 plus for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412633**

MALCOLM 61, smoker, great personality, likes coach holidays, drives, pubs, meals out, nights out, 60's music, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412523**

TONY 52, dark hair, white male, 6ft, confident, GSOH, seeks black female. Genuine ad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412481**

TALL 42yr old sincere male, caring, honest, loving, seeking female, 30-40 for fun, friendship and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412483**

ALAN tall widower, 76, looking for female of similar age who enjoys meals out, holidays, walks and holidays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412261**

ROY mid 60's, N/S, car driver, young outlook, seeks lady for friendship. West London/Shropshire anywhere. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412083**

TALL slim gent, 60, seeks slim, attractive lady for no strings relationship. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412227**

IAN 65, romantic, likes to wine/dine, days out, seeking younger female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412087**

MARK fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, tanned, looking for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411989**

FIT bubbly male, athletic, blue eyes, short fair hair, easy going, loving, GSOH, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411901**

TALL mature male, seeks younger, attractive, black race lady for spoiling and pampering. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411505**



TALL attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823**

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBW for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411801**

MALE 74, fit, N/S, OHAC, seeks slim lady of similar age for days out, holidays and walks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411673**

PHIL genuine male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411461**

DEE 49, divorced, handsome, fit, slim, seeks lady, any age for lasting, meaningful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411415**

MARK 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pubs, seeks female with similar interests and GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411335**

SLIM attractive Asian male, GSOH, seeks likeminded discreet female for adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411305**

MALE 67, seeking lady 30-50 for friendship/companionship and occasional days/nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411293**

INTELLIGENT sincere Shropshire male, slim, young 60's, playfully assertive, seeking complimentary, responsive, feminine lady, 50-60's who enjoys music, books, the arts and countryside. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 411285**

EASY going male 45, likes sports, seeks female for relationship. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 411541**

SFT 6ins male, dark hair/eyes, glasses, likes meals out, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 411455**

IAN 47, 5ft 11ins, likes cinema, nights in/out, sports, socialising, GSOH seeking similar female. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 412197**

Men seeking men

45 year old gay guy, sincere, caring, honest, loving looking for a sincere gay guy 40 to 50 years old. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4423358**

DIVORCED male, young, fit 50, generous, own business, seeks male, any nationality, 18-20 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412727**

Norwich's Olsson is charged by the FA

MARTIN Olsson has been charged with improper conduct by the Football Association after appearing to push referee Simon Hooper when he was sent off during Norwich's 1-0 defeat at Wolves on Sunday.

The Swedish defender was given his marching orders on the hour mark at Molineux after picking up a second booking for a foul on Wolves winger Rajiv van La Parra.

It was as the 26-year-old started to make his way off the pitch at Molineux that he allegedly made physical contact with the official.

He faces the possibility of an extended ban if found guilty.

A statement from the FA read: "It is alleged that Olsson's action in making physical contact with the referee immediately prior to being shown a red card and for his behaviour as he left the field of play amounted to improper conduct, which occurred outside the jurisdiction of the match officials.

"Olsson has until 6pm on August 14 to respond to the charge."

The Canaries have also had to start a racism investigation with Wolves following complaints from supporters at Molineux that La Parra was abused.

Players told take your chance

BOSS Kenny Jackett has confirmed he will ring the changes against Northampton and urged his players to take their chance.

Leon Clarke, Sam Ricketts and James Henry were due to start in the Capital One Cup clash at Molineux.

Aaron McCarey, Liam McAlinden and Ethan Ebanks-Landell are also expected to feature against the League Two Cobblers.

"Yes, we'll be changing the starting line-up," said Jackett. "There's the opportunity to have a look at the other players."

Give them a chance to stake their claim early in the season and also can they do it, are they good enough? We are going to need them later."

Club enjoys success at championships

THE British Gas ASA National Championships took place at Ponds Forge, Sheffield from Tuesday August 5 to Sunday 10.

Halesowen swimmers Chloe Finch, Hannah Taleb, Josh Bradley and Richard Spoor enjoyed a hugely successful Championships with Chloe pulling off a stunning victory in the 800m freestyle and Richard making it an incredible double by winning gold in the 200m breaststroke.

Chloe Finch (16), competing for City of Birmingham, had another gruelling competition schedule and, after competing at the National Youth Team Championships

Swimming

in Portugal just two weeks ago, made the shorter trip to Sheffield for the ASA National Championships.

Chloe competed on all six days of the Championships and started in fine style on day one by making it through to the 200m freestyle semi-final.

On day two it was an amazing gold medal performance in the 800m freestyle to grab top spot on the podium and a great swim to finish fifth in the 200m freestyle final. Day

three saw another semi-final in the 100m Freestyle and then on day five a ninth place finish in the final of the 400m individual medley.

The final day saw Chloe through to the final of the 400m freestyle and, after qualifying in sixth place pulled off an amazing performance in the final to win a silver medal and just missed out on top spot by 0.19 seconds.

Richard Spoor (21), competing for Loughborough University, was competing in the 50m, 100m and 200m breaststroke and qualified for every final. Richard qualified in

first place in the 100m but was forced to settle for bronze. In the 50m the competition was fierce with Richard well placed in 6th but the 200m on Saturday saw an incredible performance to grab national gold by almost 1.5 seconds from his nearest rival.

Josh Bradley (21) was competing in the 50m and 100m butterfly and narrowly missed on out on semi-final places.

Hannah Taleb (16), competing for Hamilton UAE, took part in all three breaststroke events and also produced three excellent performances tfor the most successful ever National Championships for the club.

Yeltz edge out the Rangers in friendly

Halesowen Town 3 Black Country Rangers 2
HALESOWEN completed their pre-season SCHEDULE with another victory after edging out Black Country Rangers of the West Midlands League by the odd goal in five.

Alex Hammond's early corner for Black Country Rangers was cleared by Asa Charlton and Hammond's direct 17th minute free-kick from 25 yards was turned over the bar by home goalkeeper Matt Sargeant.

Sargeant then collected low down after danger-man Hammond delivered a 27th minute free kick from the right wing.

But the Yeltz took the lead after 34 minutes when Neil Mackenzie let fly to fire home from the edge of the penalty area to leave goalkeeper Luke Tilt beaten.

Phil McCurdy's low raking shot was collected by Sargeant after 37 minutes but Halesowen went close on two further occasions just before the interval Halesowen when MacKenzie placed a shot wide and lyseden Christie headed just over the bar.

At the start of the second half Christie clattered the crossbar from the penalty spot in the 48th minute and missed his chance to double Halesowen's lead.

Rangers then equalised when trialist Cass Pangne converted their own penalty after Curtis Tilt brought down ex-Yeltz forward Justin Nisbett. The visitors then snatched the lead through McCurdy's volley after Hammond whipped over a 67th minute cross.

Five minutes later substitute goalkeeper Sam

Football

Pearson collected another McCurdy shot after he again combined well with Nisbett.

Mackenzie levelled the scores at 2-2 with a low drive in the 77th minute for his second goal of the afternoon, shortly after returning to the pitch to replace Danny Bragoli.

Chris Lait then completed the pre-season scoring and secured victory with an 80th minute low drive from MacKenzie's corner.

In the final minute Robert Thompson-Brown robbed Alex Norris to set up Tom Tonks, but his low drive was saved by the Rangers' goalkeeper.

Halesowen Town: Sargeant (Pearson 62); Green, Charlton, MacKenzie (Tonks HT), Kettle, C. Tilt (c), Bragoli (MacKenzie 75), Forde, Christie, Haseley (Thompson-Brown 62), A. Griffiths (Lait HT).

Black Country Rangers: L. Tilt; Skelding (Duffield 70), Hammond, Lawson (Flint 84), S. Griffiths (c) (Norris 54), Miles, Wellings (Fincher HT), Pardoe, Nisbett, McCurdy (Finley 81), Pangne.

Referee: Ross Crawford.

Hurray for Harry in Trophy triumph



Youngster Harry Bigham has defied all the odds after winning the Reid Trophy

ENVILLE Golf Club played host to one of the biggest events in their 79-year history this week when they staged the Reid Trophy.

The prestigious under-14s boys event, which featured 144 competitors from 16 different nations, was held over four days.

And it was home-grown long-shot Harry Bigham, who prior to the tournament had never broken par and had a handicap of four, who defied

all odds to win the competition.

Club manager Heather Mulley said: "It's one of the biggest ever held here. It was organised by England Gold and it went very, very well.

"It was brilliant for our juniors and a real inspiration for them. They also got involved in ball-spotting, score relaying and even carried the scorecard around on the final day.

"It really did have a big tournament feel. It was fantastic for our

club and for junior golf in the area and we had a lot of spectators from other clubs, too.

"All the families stayed in the hotels in the area so it was very good for local businesses as well."

Mulley hopes hosting the event will lead to more events of a similar calibre. "It's (Reid Trophy) on a three-year rota so we could get it in the next three to six years," said Mulley.

Tivs make up for M5 delay with a victory

Barnstaple Town FC 1 Tivdale FC 4

AFTER a six-hour coach ride and arriving an hour and a half after the original kick off time due to very heavy traffic on the M5, it took the visitors quite a while to shake off the travel weariness.

Barnstaple on the other hand had been raring to go, and they completely bossed Tivdale in the first half hour and deservedly took the lead with a great strike from the impressive Jack Jenkins on 17 minutes.

The visitors were literally all over the place at this time and should have gone 2-0 down but somehow Barnstaple hit the bar from 10 yards with the goal gaping.

As the half ended Tivdale began to get up to some sort of speed and they were level on 40 minutes when the first flowing move of the game culminated in a classy volley by Karl Edwards.

The second half was all Tivdale and they should have been ahead well before the 72nd minute when Jordan Archer latched onto a through ball, held off his marker and fired home. Tivdale added two more in the last five minutes a second for Edwards and one from substitute Max Bissell.

Harriers in stalemate at Lincoln

Lincoln 0 Kidderminster 0
LINCOLN CITY keeper Nick Townsend kept Kidderminster Harriers at bay as the two teams shared the points at Sincil Bank in the Conference Premier.

Josh Gowling cleared off the goal-line in the Imps' best chance of the first half, while at the other end Townsend dived full-length to save from Craig Reid.

It was Reid again who failed to hit the target immediately after the break and Townsend turned a 35-yard volley by the striker over the bar.

In a rousing finale, substitute Reece Styche sent a long drive off target, but Harriers were relieved to see Marcus Marshall shoot across the face of their goal.



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Edged out
Yeltz win brings
friendlies to a close
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Harry to a tee
Youngster defies the
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Page 35



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Worrall will be back for big clash

STEVE Worrall returns to the Cradley team for Sunday's trip to Mildenhall as they look to secure top spot in the National League for the fourth time in five seasons, writes Nigel Pearson.

And Worrall admits one negative side of his stunning season so far is the amount of meetings he's been forced to miss in Heathens colours because of clashes with Premier League side Edinburgh and, to a lesser degree, Elite League Swindon.

He said: "The only bad thing this season has been the amount of meetings I've missed because of fixtures clashing.

"It's really frustrating to be missing meetings for any of your clubs, but when you are riding in all three league there's not much you can do about it I suppose.

"It's disappointing but hopefully I'm not going to miss too many more between now and the end of the season."

"We've had some massive wins and everyone is high on confidence at the moment."

Heathens are next in action at their Monmore Green home against King's Lynn on Tuesday, August 26. The return fixture on September 3 at the Norfolk Arena will also double-up as the second leg of the National Shield.

Rugby club's first friendly

STOURBRIDGE Rugby Club will be preparing for the new season with their first friendly on Saturday, taking on local rivals Old Halsonians.

The host's squad is likely to feature two players who appeared in last weekend's televised Premiership Sevens tournament - centre Gary Dipple(Leicester Tigers) and winger Jamie Hearn (London Irish).

With Director of Rugby Neil Mitchell hoping to make it third time lucky in the promotion chase the majority of last season's squad have been retained, though some exciting new recruits will get their first opportunity to impress in the game which starts at 3pm.

Stourbridge Lions will play their first warm-up game against Old Yardleians. Entry to both games is free, food and refreshments will be available.

Baggies looking unready for big kickoff

Albion 1 Porto 3

FIRST things first. Porto were magnificent. Albion lost to a Champions League team playing fine football who treated The Hawthorns to a pre-season feast.

And there is no shame in that. So the boos that came from a small minority of Baggies fans to greet defeat in a largely meaningless pre-season friendly were unfathomable.

But it was tough to wander away from The Hawthorns on Saturday without worrying that the new Premier League season is careering into view way too fast for Alan

Football

Irvine and his men. It is impossible not to feel for the likeable Scot, who is preparing for the biggest season of his life with one arm tied behind his back.

Joleon Lescott, Gareth McAuley, Cristian Gamboa, Jason Davidson, James Morrison and Brown Ideye were all missing against the Portuguese giants through a combination of injuries, shortened pre-seasons and administrative delays.

And none of the absentees are likely to

be fit to start next week when Sunderland pitch up at The Hawthorns for the start of the Premier League season.

The result is a Baggies squad that looks competitive at full strength but painfully lacking in depth in its current, depleted state.

And if Saturday was an indication of their level of readiness for the new campaign, Irvine will be harbouring genuine concerns about the opening phase of the season.

His team's defending has been a worry throughout pre-season and on Saturday the foibles were clear to see once more.

A messy goal from a set-piece, a free header from a simple cross and an all-too easy third strike asked some hard questions of a back four shorn of the experience of McAuley and Lescott and featuring Craig Dawson, whose desire to leave is well-known and whose credentials at the highest level remain unproven.

But a lack of attacking fluency has also struck in the final week of friendly action and on Saturday, albeit against a superbly-drilled side, the Baggies forced keeper Andres into just one meaningful save. And all of this ahead of a crucial opening games.

Fighters earn the medals

FORTKNOCKS Kimura Shukokai Karate club members have returned from the KSI World Karate Championships with a haul of medals.

Instructor Audun Daniels, 5th Dan, had an impressive championships and earned silver medals.

He took silver in the Men's Individual Kata (forms) which had more than 90 competitors and was narrowly pipped for the gold medal, and he also stormed to a great silver in the Men's +90kg Kumite (fighting) category.

Emma Bradley continued to show her outstanding form and promising talent, adding to the two European gold medals last year in Finland.

She took two world Silver medals in the Girls Individual Kata and the Girls Individual Kumite Lightweight event.

Now aged 12, Emma started karate when she was nine and already she has been in four international finals and won numerous national titles.

Mia Daniels also had a great competition, by adding bronze in the Girls Individual Heavyweight Kumite.

Lockmen allow the lead to slip

WILLENHALL 2 Gornal 2 WILLENHALL got off to the perfect start when Craig Sudlow scored after only five minutes.

In the 39th minute Jack Pottinger extended the lead.

However, Matt Vaughan powered home a header for Gornal from a flag-kick before Rion Francis-Mills poked home a leveller.

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, August 14

JACKETT'S SIDE GETS AN ED START

Wolves 1 Norwich 0

ONCE Dave Edwards rose to nod in Rajiv van La Parra's cross on Saturday, Wolves' return was complete.

The deserved 1-0 win over Norwich was reward for a tenacious display which Wolves had promised to deliver all summer.

Molineux must become the proverbial fortress in the Championship again. When they were relegated in 2013 they lost nine games, drawing seven and winning just seven as they conceded home ground too often.

This time they went at Norwich, hunting in packs and ensuring the visitors never got the chance to fully impose themselves.

Momentum

The fallen Canaries, relegated from the Premier League last season, were shellshocked as Wolves maintained their momentum from last season's League One title campaign.

That is not to say Wolves were pitch perfect, they were occasionally loose with possession and lacked penetration in the first half. But they were good enough.

There will be talk about a double promotion. Jackett has not done anything to dampen that, and while the result was impressive expectation must be tempered.

Fans know, from sad experience, they can help make or break their team and to add too much pressure from the terraces would surely be counter-productive.

Wolves will consolidate but need to add more quality before any serious promotion charge can be mounted.

Football

And Chris Wood, after a summer of interest, is slowly edging into view with Jackett confirming on-going talks with Leicester for the striker.

Van La Parra's dangerous deliveries and workrate left Norwich trailing as the 23-year-old - just one of two summer arrivals - justified Jackett's transfer policy of quality, not quantity.

Olsson's dismissal turned the game and it was from Van La Parra's cross that Edwards' scoring run continued.

After bagging six goals in his final 10 appearances last season, he netted the winner as Molineux erupted.

Back in the Championship on merit, Wolves' rise from League One may have not been nationally recognised but on TV yesterday they were given a chance to showcase their progress.

Jackett united a fractured club and dressing room last season and had been bullish about his team's targets this.

The Championship is an unforgiving, relentless, league But Wolves went for the jugular early.

Athletes take on the magic mile at stadium



Members of the Dudley Kingswinford Running club who entered the Magic Mile event

There was magic in the air for athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running club on Friday night as the blue hoops mixed with the running clubs from Sweatshop and Action Heart for races at The Dell Stadium.

As part of a "Magic Mile" promotion, a running challenge pitting runners against the clock over the distance in events nationwide, DK dipped their toes in the water over a distance most runners rarely run . The races were competitive affairs with runners seeding based on their 5k times ensuring every race throughout the evening was a spirited contest from the first event at

6.30pm through to the final race of eight at 8.15pm.

Winners throughout the evening were Gavin Grosvenor of SRC in 8.12, Charlotte Tonks of DK in 7.57, Dan Perry of SRC in 5.38, Carol Fisher of DK in 7.21, Gary Bonner of DK in 5.32, Lisa Newell of DK in 7.19 and Helen Tromans of DK in 6.26 but the standout performance of the night came from Ben Foster in a Dream Mile finishing in 4.45, a race where all seven finishers beat 5.35.

Next day runners from DK were on more familiar ground at the Stourbridge Stumble, a 10k race from Mary Stevens Park . Just

missing out on a podium place Ben Foster finished 4th in 37.34, Kevin Duckworth finished in 39.58 (11th) to claim an age group prize.

Dave Norman was 14th in 41.21, Simon Hughes 26th, Paul Richards 27th, Mick Quane 30th, Daren Thompson 34th, Graham Wildgoose 35th, Richard Tonks 44th, Mark Homer 46th and Helen Tromans 53rd in 47.00 taking the fourth ladies position and claiming a first in her age group. They were joined by Mark Judge, Dave Hickman, John Andrews, Roger Beddard, Carol Fisher, Brian Lane, Alison Whitehouse, Flora Bianco and Debbie Richards.



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